



Court orders NGA to call off its nationwide strike

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The National Graphical Association was ordered by a High Court judge yesterday to call off the countrywide newspaper strike called for tomorrow in protest at the £525,000 contempt of court fine imposed on it last week.

Leaders of other unions going into the meeting declined to discuss the issue publicly but some were privately sceptical about the NGA's chances of winning the level of TUC backing that it apparently wants before embarking on its disruption of the newspaper industry.

The 1980 and 1982 Employment Acts which led to the union's refusal to abide by orders made in the High Court in Manchester not to engage in secondary picketing against Mr Shah's printing works.

The print union also faces a mass of claims for damages if the strike goes ahead from newspaper managements all over Britain which could cost it millions of pounds.

Times Newspapers last night issued the following statement: "Times Newspapers Ltd and News Group Newspapers Ltd have tonight obtained a mandatory injunction requiring the NGA general secretary and national council to withdraw their instruction given to employees at TNL and NGNL to take industrial action."

Mr Robert Stuby, president of the Newspaper Society, which represents owners of more than 1,000 provincial titles, calculated that the provincial industry would lose up to £3m if the strike call was obeyed.

Mr Joe Wade, the NGA general secretary, was last night asking the TUC for full backing for the strike, in continuing defiance of the Government's labour laws.

"The terms of the court order specifically require the defendants to give immediate notice that they have issued an instruction for the strike call to be withdrawn."

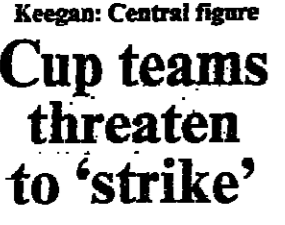
Members of the NPA are already claiming a total of £3m damages for disruption two weeks ago and the loss of another day's production could double their suit. Taken with the huge fines already levied, the court actions could bankrupt the NGA of its total, sequestered, funds of a little more than £10m.

The strike takes place tomorrow the fines for contempt of yesterday's order and the awards for damages could bankrupt the union.

"The instruction the NGA is required to give must be put in writing to the Press Association by 10pm tonight (Monday) and it must be confirmed subsequently in writing to the chapel and/or to the London region of the NGA."

Regional response, page 2 Parliament, page 4

Cup teams threaten to 'strike'



Keegan: Central figure

Liverpool and Newcastle will refuse to play their FA Cup match on Friday, January 6 if television cameras are present. The BBC want to screen the third round tie live but both clubs want the Football Association to increase the Professional Footballers Association share of the television proceeds from the current offer of £40,000.

Pound closes at record low

The pound fell further against the dollar, closing at a record low of \$1.4310, down 45 points, but it was firmer against other currencies.

New-look QE2

The Queen Elizabeth 2 sailed last night from Bremerhaven to Southampton after her 15-day £3.5m refit at the Hapag-Lloyd yard.

Solicitors' vote

MPs are also solicitors will be allowed to vote on the controversial Bill to end the solicitors' monopoly on conveyancing. The Speaker has ruled Estate agents' role, page 3

CD clampdown

Measures to reduce the number of diplomatic service cars evading fixed penalties and wheel clamping through claiming immunity have been announced Parliament, page 4

Glue-sniff case

Two brothers who sold glue-sniffing kits to children were each jailed for three years after a court ruling that such sales were a crime in Scotland. Back page

The go-between

Portugal has offered to act as a go-between for Argentina and Britain in negotiations about the future of the Falklands. Page 6

BL goes private

The Government is to begin privatizing BL next year, the Commons was told

Salyut trouble

The Salyut 7 space station suffered a fuel leak and its two-man crew had a narrow escape during their recent 149-day flight, Soviet officials admitted. Page 7

Whitehall Brief, page 20

Leader page, 13

Letters: On Airbus, from Mr P E G Bates; NGA dispute, from Mr D M Nathan; archives, from Mr H Speak

Leading articles: Kuwait, Gibraltar

Features, pages 8, 10, 12

Could the kamikaze bombers come to London? The question mark over Britain's Beirut contingent; Mushroom clouds and video nasties; Spectrum; Mosley and the Jews; Fashion: the style of Jennifer Hall.

Obituary, page 14

General Sir Neil Ritchie

Computer Horizons announces its national computer competition for 1984, explains the significance of the computerisation of Hansard, and reports on plans to introduce 1,900 micro-computers into the Foreign Office. Pages 18, 19

Table with 3 columns: Home News, Events, and other categories with corresponding page numbers.



Brave face: Scottish nanny Carol Compton struggles to be cheerful as she appears in a barred Italian dock charged with arson and attempted murder.

Nanny trial starts in uproar

From Peter Nichols Livorno, Italy

The trial of Carol Compton, the 21-year-old Scottish nanny charged with arson and attempted murder, began yesterday with her struggling to make an Italian court understand her own account of the chain of circumstances which landed her in trouble.

Call for more places on youth team

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The Government is to be asked to approve changes next year to the Youth Training Scheme that would go some way towards reaching the original target of providing places for 460,000 unemployed youngsters.

There were chaotic scenes before she was able to begin her testimony. When she was led into a locked cage which serves as a dock in Italy, the 60 journalists present leapt on to tables and pushed past policemen to get near her.

But it is unlikely that extra funds will be made available. A meeting of the Manpower Services Commission tomorrow is expected to approve proposals which place emphasis on providing more places for unemployed 17-year-olds, although the commission will still be able to guarantee places only to 16-year-olds.

Despite court orders forbidding photography, cameras whirred and clicked. The Court President stalked out and could be heard shouting at officials to restore order before he would begin.

The proposals for the scheme's second year starting in September are contained in an internal paper to be presented today to a meeting of the Youth Training Board. The board advises the MSC youth training and is likely to accept plans for extending the scheme to more 17-year-olds.

She knelt down to kiss her mother between the wooden columns below the bars.

The scheme will, according to the paper, provide places this year for about 350,000 youngsters. Better marketing of the scheme to young people and their parents would increase take-up.

She is accused of having started five fires in three different houses with intention in one instance of killing a three-year-old girl in her charge. She denies having started any of the fires.

There were, it says, particular difficulties this year, and a growth in take-up next year of places might be expected. However, discussions with officials at local level suggested that, without changes in the rules, the number of youngsters on the scheme would not exceed 400,000.

Mr Duffy: Agreement no climb-down.

A better balance is suggested.

Unions accept 5% in three pay deals

By Our Labour Staff

Unions representing about two million workers in engineering, retail shops and the Merchant Navy have accepted pay settlements of between 5 and 6 per cent.

Engineering union leaders agreed yesterday to a 5.2 per cent wage rise for up to 1½ million workers, which will pave the way for new working practices in the industry.

The Engineering Employers' Federation (EEF) has raised its offer from 4 per cent, but in return from a commitment from the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, representing 17 unions, to consider far-reaching productivity proposals.

Having dealt with pay, the two sides are to set up a working party in the new year to discuss the union's additional claims, which involve a reduction in the working week from 39 hours to 35 and an increase in holidays from five weeks to six.

In return the EEF has put forward a document which it hopes will revolutionize the industry and produce a dramatic reduction in costs.

The employers want to get rid of restrictive working practices and introduce flexibility between jobs and flexible hours. The EEF also wants ballots taken before industrial action.

The wage deal, backdated to November 1, means an increase of £4.50 a week in the national minimum rate for skilled workers, bringing them to £91.50, and a £3.24 rise for the unskilled, giving them £65.84.

Mr Terence Duffy, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and leader of the negotiators, said that the pay deal would be recommended to the executives of the 17 unions involved. It is unlikely



Mr Duffy: Agreement no climb-down.

'Day after' is a big turn-off

By David Hewson Arts Correspondent

The Day After, the US-made film about nuclear war, was a flop with Saturday night viewers. London Weekend Television estimated that up to a third of its viewers may have switched off before the two-hour film.

One television company executive commented: "Perhaps people were really after entertainment for Saturday night and found the subject too dismal. The media hype probably worked against us."

Final audience figures will not be published until next week, but if LWT's estimates are reflected nationally, the commercial network's normal peak-time audience might have fallen from 12 million to about the eight million mark.

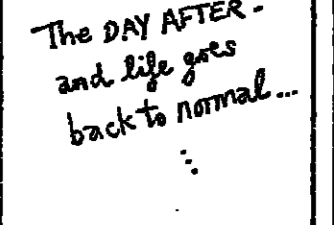
Yorkshire Television, which said at the weekend that it had commissioned a BARB ratings report to be published yesterday, later said that it expected audience figures on Thursday.

The BBC said yesterday that it did not expect to have its weekend audience figures until next week.

Although The Day After received much publicity because of the insistence on a report of reply by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, some network executives had feared that it was doomed to poor ratings.

Scheduling problems meant that it could only be shown on a Saturday night in a slot usually reserved for light entertainment.

Showing it during the week either side of the News at Ten was regarded as damaging and LWT was reluctant to drop the South Bank Show to enable it to be networked on Sunday. Faslane arrests, page 2



The DAY AFTER - and life goes back to normal...



BOMBS KUWAIT

Greece to safeguard Britons' land

From Mario Modiano Athens

The Greek Government wants to reassure about 1,000 Britons, who acquired property on the island of Corfu, circumventing a 1927 ban on sales of land to foreigners in frontier areas, that they will not be dispossessed or penalized.

Professor George Kassimatis, legal adviser to Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Prime Minister, told The Times: "The Prime Minister's wish and order are that this problem should be resolved promptly."

The professor, who is coordinating inter-ministerial action on this issue, said a special ministerial council would meet within a few days to recommend changes in the law.

"The Government's unanimous desire is to safeguard the rights, even the present status, of the owners, provided our national security interests are adequately protected," he stated.

The Cabinet was stirred into action after a pledge given by Mr Papandreu in London last month to Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who raised the problem of Corfu Britons.

The threat was posed by a Greek Supreme Court ruling in April, validating the sale of a 15-acre Corfu estate to a Briton on the ground that under the 1972 ban even Greek companies controlled by foreigners could not acquire land in frontier areas like Corfu.

The Government has already given a warning by the European Commission that this legislation is contrary to basic Community law. It is therefore considering the possibility of either limiting the ban to a narrow frontier zone, or imposing qualifications for foreign owners to satisfy sensitivities over national security.

Kuwait bombs blamed on Iran

From Robert Fisk Beirut

American embassies throughout the Middle East were last night warned that they could be the target of suicide bombers after Shia Muslim extremists—believed to be acting on orders from Iran—staged a concerted bombing attack on six buildings in Kuwait.

The US and French embassies, on American residential quarter of Kuwait, a power station and the control tower of the international airport were all targets of the attack, which was unprecedented in the Gulf.

It was clearly intended to strike a blow at the stability of the oil kingdoms and last night Kuwait promised the "maximum punishments" for those responsible.

One of the bombers, who was blown across the road in front of the American Embassy after driving a lorry loaded with explosives through the main gate of the compound, survived the blast and was undergoing surgery last night while Kuwaiti security authorities waited to discover his identity.

About 60,000 Iraqis live in Kuwait under close scrutiny by the state police. The Americans last night believed that the Iranian Government was probably behind the assault.

Both the United States and France had apparently received warning that some attack was to be made upon their embassies but assumed it would occur in Beirut where embassy security has been substantially increased over the past two days.

Given the amount of explosives used, it was remarkable that only four people were killed and 54 wounded, although the bombs, which all detonated in the space of about an hour, were obviously meant to cause far greater casualties.

Two of the dead were Kuwaiti security guards employed by the American Embassy; a third was a technician who worked at the airport.

The bombing at the American Embassy followed an almost identical pattern to those in Beirut last October which killed almost 300 US Marines and French paratroopers. And like those attacks, yesterday's explosions in Kuwait were almost immediately claimed by a telephone caller who rang Agence France Presse in Beirut to say that he represented the Islamic Jihad (Islamic Struggle) movement which announced that it had bombed the Americans and French two months ago.

The Kuwait attacks were both an indication of growing anti-American sentiment in the Middle East and of the vulnerability of the militarily weak Gulf states who fear that Iran's revolution might at last be about to spread southwards to embrace the largely Sunni

Continued on back page, col 3

Advertisement for Harrods featuring a woman in a dress and text: Beautiful evenings begin at Harrods. Our new-look Evening Room, completely redesigned, has reopened in perfect time for the party season. Choose something glamorous for sparkling winter nights from a dazzling selection of late day dresses, ball gowns and stunning evening separates.

Advertisement for Spectrum magazine: Hitler, it seemed, was overwhelmed by Diana Mosley told the Birkett committee that with Frau Goebbels and Frau Wagner, she was one of the three women for whom he had the highest regard in the whole world.



# General Motors to build engine plant if Vauxhall maintains its recovery

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

General Motors will build its next new engine plant in Britain if its subsidiary, Vauxhall, continues its remarkable recovery.

It could mean several thousand new jobs within three years and a substantial reduction in the company's imports of completed cars and components.

All Vauxhall engines are imported from GM factories in West Germany and Australia at present.

Mr John Fleming, chairman and managing director of Vauxhall, said yesterday that a more short-term move to increase British production of the company's plant at Ellesmere Port, Cheshire would introduce a second shift in April, four months ahead of target. A second shift was introduced at Luton, Bedfordshire, in August.

Mr Fleming said that by the end of 1984 65 per cent of all Vauxhalls sold in Britain would be British built, compared with 50 per cent at present.

He admitted that the change in tactics since 1979, when Vauxhall made all the cars sold in Britain in this country, to one where it was a substantial net importer, had not helped the country's balance of payments.

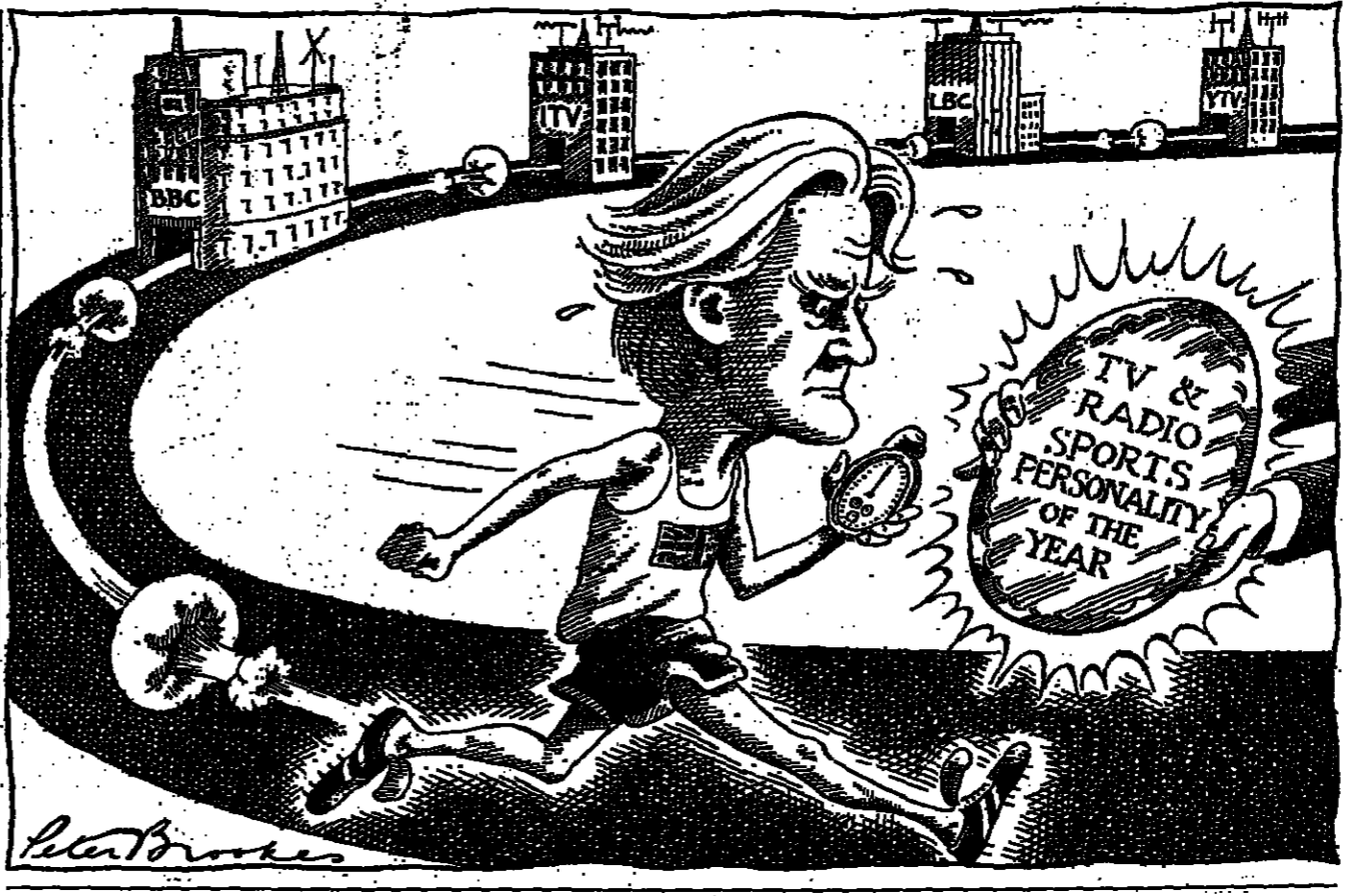
## Fuel consumption up

The average fuel consumption of new cars in Britain is 15 per cent better than in 1978, which means a 10,000-mile-a-year motorist is saving enough to pay his annual 255 road tax, according to latest figures (the Press Association reports).

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders has presented the details to the Government to show that car makers have exceeded their target of a 10 per cent fuel consumption saving two years ahead of time.

"The actual improvement could have been 17.5 per cent, but new EEC exhaust emission controls imposed in 1982 cost about 2.5 per cent in fuel consumption for all cars," Mr Sam Toy, chairman of the Society's energy committee and chairman and managing director of Ford of Britain, said.

A further strengthening of emission regulations planned for 1985 will cost up to another 2½ per cent in increased fuel consumption.



## Tadworth staff to get £110,000 and jobs

Nurses, cleaners and other staff at Tadworth Court Hospital for Sick Children in Surrey are to receive £110,000 in extra pay for 1984. Health even though the trust which is to take over the hospital with the help of a DHSS grant is to reemploy all 129 of them immediately.

The decision to make the staff redundant, rather than to second them to the trust from the NHS, was confirmed yesterday by the department.

A spokesman for the department said yesterday that it did explore the possibility of seconding staff. "But neither the trust nor the board were prepared to accept secondment."

Great Ormond Street Hospital which now runs Tadworth, confirmed yesterday that it had not wanted to continue employing staff while seconding them to Tadworth. "We are not in the

## Kinnock offer to Gerry Adams

The Labour Party leader, Mr Neil Kinnock said yesterday that he would be prepared to meet Mr Gerry Adams, president of Provisional Sinn Féin, political wing of the Provisional IRA, but only if he was actively involved in the democratic process.

Mr Kinnock's readiness to meet Mr Adams, MP for West Belfast, and other leading members of Provisional Sinn Féin, was revealed during his first visit to Northern Ireland since he became party leader.

Although he paid a brief courtesy call on Mr James Prior, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Mr Kinnock did not meet leaders of any political parties during a brief visit in which he saw leading trade unionists, youth work-shops, and toured Shorts, the state-owned aircraft factory.

He is expected to meet political leaders on his next visit.

## The Warrington dispute Regional papers will try to beat strike

By Kenneth Gosling

A number of individual newspapers and groups of weekly and daily publications said yesterday that they would try to beat the National Graphical Association's 24-hour strike in the case of weekly newspapers this is likely to mean a delay in delivery of local editions to newsagents.

In Scotland, it was hoped that 120 regional and weekly newspapers would publish with the cooperation of members of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades, although later than usual.

But the situation was less certain so far as the Scottish Daily Newspaper Society, which represented 13 morning, evening and Sunday newspapers, was concerned.

It issued a statement deploring any interference with normal publication and, like its counterpart covering England, Wales and Northern Ireland, called on the TUC to ask the NGA to think again.

In England, an attempt will be made to publish the Wolverhampton Express and Star, the evening newspaper which was produced during the national dispute in April, 1980.

Mr Mark Keren, its managing director, said: "We are obviously looking at whatever options are open to us. I am hopeful - there is no reason why we should not produce this time round."

Mr James Evans, joint deputy managing director of Thomson British Holdings parent company of Thomson Regional Newspapers, said: "If the strike goes ahead, as far as we are concerned we will pursue the NGA for damages that will be very substantial."

"We would not be able to bring out our morning papers like the Western Mail, Cardiff, or The Journal, Newcastle, or a number of evening papers around the country. So virtually all our papers will be affected."

Sir Richard Storey, chairman of Portsmouth and Sunderland Newspapers, which publishes 14 local newspapers, said the group hoped to keep production going. The papers have a combined circulation of 200,000 copies.

Mr Steve Oram, head of industrial relations at Westminster Press, which has many local weekly papers, said that the question of continuing publication this week would be given "full consideration", as would the question of claiming damages from the NGA.

## Unions to fight Jenkin legal move

By Hugh Clayton, Labour Correspondent

The Government yesterday told union leaders that it would seek powers next year to prevent their members from withholding information needed in the process of abolishing the Greater London Council and the metropolitan counties.

The prospect of a new legal struggle between the Government and the unions arose at a meeting between Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, and members of the TUC's local government committee, who told him that they are opposed to him bringing in statutory machinery to oblige employees to disclose information.

The Transport and General Workers' Union, farmworkers' section, is to undertake a study of the herbicide 2,4,5-T and the possible risks it poses to people and animals.

The union has been campaigning for several years for a ban on 2,4,5-T. The weedkiller contains the highly toxic chemical dioxin.

## £44,000 painting from cellar

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A canvass that had been languishing in a coal cellar near Exeter for 44,000 years, Phillips finally attributed the painting to Captain Thomas Davies, who had exhibited a picture with this title at the Royal Academy in 1774.

Phillips had applied to several North American museums for help in identifying the view but it was the Fort Ticonderoga Museum in New York State which provided the charts that clinched the matter and yesterday the museum bought the picture for its collection.

The Phillips sale of British pictures totalled £465,488 with 10 per cent unsold. Another curiosity of the sale was a group of hunting pictures by Thomas Butler who is recorded in the 1750s to have tried his hand at painting the intense demand for sporting pictures although he was by trade a bookseller and stationer in Pall Mall.

Primitives Fine Art paid £36,300 (estimate £25,000 to £30,000) for "The Meest" while Ackerman spent £35,200 (same estimate) on "The Hunt in Full Cry".

Christie's sale of silver and jewelry totalled £514,209 with 14 per cent unsold. Worsick paid the top price at £56,160 (estimate £20,000 to £40,000) for a James II circular medallion dated 1687 and decorated with Chinese engraving (35ozs).

## Owen deal to retire dud envoys

By a Staff Reporter

Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democratic Party, will disclose in a radio interview tonight that as Foreign Secretary he concluded a secret deal with the Foreign Office aimed at killing the controversial Think Tank report on the Diplomatic Service.

Speaking on the BBC Radio Three programme, Routine Punctuated by Orgies, a study of the Central Policy Review Staff (CPRS), the Cabinet's Think Tank which was closed by Mrs Margaret Thatcher last summer, Dr Owen says the CPRS's Review of Overseas Representation, published in 1977, was "hopeless".

It hindered the one reform on which he had set his heart: the "golden bowlering" of dud ambassadors designed to ease them into early retirement and make way for gifted young men and women.

In the broadcast he describes his deal with the Foreign Office saying to its senior officials: "OK, I will ditch the report if you support me on this up-and-down business."

Mr James Callaghan set up a secret Cabinet committee, of which Dr Owen was a member, to consider the CPRS's recommendations which included closing 20 diplomatic missions.

Whitehall brief, page 20

## Under-use may shut MSC centres

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

The Manpower Services Commission will be forced to close many of its Skill Centres in areas of high unemployment next year because of government policy, the civil service unions said yesterday.

According to commission figures, the centres, used mainly for adult training, will be operating at 19 per cent below capacity nationally with only 12,012 of the 14,801 available places filled.

But in the Midlands they will be 32 per cent underused and in northern England and Wales 25 per cent will be vacant. That will inevitably lead to closures, the union claims.

Predictions of low level use partly result from the Government's wanting training centres to be operated on commercial lines. Only those courses providing skills in demand from local employers being continued.

A private planning document drawn up by the commission's training department for consideration by the MSC tomorrow, says: "The emphasis should be on meeting the needs of employers rather than the needs of individuals. Greater emphasis should be given to training back on occupational training where playing results are poor."

The paper, putting forward plans for 1984-85, casts doubt on the viability of the present network of centres.

"The union, which published the document yesterday, says that means that areas of high unemployment will be most affected because of the low level of demand for skills.

The union which represents instructors at the skill centres, says that 344 such jobs are at risk. It says that most courses will be lost in mechanical engineering, automotive and construction skills.

The union says that in the present training exercise, the balance has swung wildly towards industrial needs at the expense of individuals."

## NGA 'broke own rules'

The National Graphical Association was said yesterday to have broken its own rules by four members expelled from the union for alleged strike-breaking.

A High Court judge is being asked to order the NGA to continue to treat the men as members and to declare that the decision to expel them was unlawful.

The four claim that the wrongful denial of their membership has put their jobs at risk. Their counsel, Mr Brian Keith, told Mr Justice Skinner that the four were on the management of the Westminster Press subsidiary, John H Burrows and Sons of Basildon, Essex, when there was a dispute involving members of the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel in April, 1980.

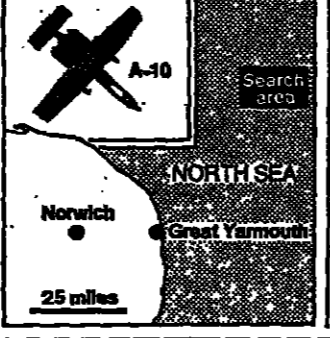
Mr Eric Bowers, pressroom manager, Mr Anthony Dean, production manager, Mr Keith Fenwick, composing room manager, and Mr Henry McGill, his assistant, all helped in the production of papers after the men were sent home together with NGA members.

They were accused by the union of assisting in the production of a paper with unrecognised persons.

Mr Keith said the expulsions were "contrary to the rules of natural justice". The hearing, expected to last several days, continues.

## Jets collide

An American pilot was missing last night after two A-10 "tankbuster" jets based at RAF Woodbridge, Suffolk, collided off the Norfolk coast yesterday on a training flight. The other pilot, Major Andrew Bush, aged 39, was rescued.



## Labour defers decision on job cuts

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

It is now to consider alternative proposals put forward by the Bar unions representing headquarters staff for increasing revenue and cutting wasteful expenditure, in an attempt to avoid job losses.

Members of Labour's national executive have been concerned about the reduction in relations between staff and management at headquarters since the presentation of an emergency plan last month, containing options for the loss of either 20 posts or between 50 and 60.

The unions complained they were not consulted about the proposals, and accused the management of inefficiency. Mr James Mortimer, the party secretary, has said that, to consider the option of cutting 20 jobs to be achieved by making 13 people redundant and not filling seven vacancies.

## Smyslov draws steadily closer to victory

By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

The ninth game between Vassily Smyslov and Zoltan Ribli in the Acorn Computers World Chess Championship semi-final in London ended in a draw on Sunday after 28 moves, making the score in the match Smyslov 5½, Ribli 3½.

Smyslov started quietly with a restrained type of Queen's Gambit and Ribli replied actively with the Tarrasch Defence.

With Smyslov playing carefully and correctly, Ribli could do little to disturb his opponent's unanimity. He brought about some difference in the nature of the position in that he castled Queenside, opposite sides to his opponent.

But Smyslov exchanged Queens on move 22, after which it was clear that a draw would be the outcome. It was Ribli who proposed the draw after a further exchange, on

## 46 arrested in Polaris base protest

Forty-six peace protesters were arrested yesterday during clashes outside the Polaris nuclear submarine base at Faslane in the Clyde.

About 60 protesters began an attempt to blockade the base yesterday morning. Eight people got into the base but they were immediately arrested.

A force of more than one hundred police officers kept the north entrance open.

Women peace protesters claimed last night that they were beaten with metal sticks by soldiers guarding the Greenham Common missile base in Berkshire during the big weekend demonstration.

Fifteen women out of the 25,000 demonstrators are said to have been injured. The police reported 29 officers hurt.

Mr Denis Healey, Labour's spokesman on foreign affairs, spoke on a party political broadcast last night that decisions about nuclear war would soon be handed over to computers and that cruise missiles had no military value because the bases at Greenham Common and Molesworth, Cambridgeshire, could be obliterated with just two missiles.

"Even if these cruise convoys were able to trundle away first to their firing sites," he added "it would still take only 40 missiles to knock them out and the whole of southern England would be a radioactive desert."

The National Union of Students at its conference in Blackpool yesterday abandoned its established neutral policy of peace and disarmament by blaming Western leaders for deliberately increasing international tension and by voting for British withdrawal from Nato.

**THE PERFECT PRESENT**

One for the home, one for the handbag, one for father and one each for the family.

For shining beautifully conditioned hair - naturally.

**MASON PEARSON**

Recommended prices from £3.16 to £18.63 at top chemists and stores.

Or write for the name of your nearest stockist and a free Hair Care leaflet to 37 Old Bond Street, London W1X 3AE

**A little Christmas decoration from Van Cleef & Arpels.**

This Christmas, the most brilliant gifts are from Van Cleef & Arpels.

The fabulous 'La Boutique' range. Beautiful watches for men and women.

Plus a new exhibition of sumptuous jewellery never seen before in this country.

**VAN CLEEF & ARPELS**

153 New Bond Street, London W1. Tel: 01-491 1405. Telex: 266265.

## Population trends: 2 Long haul to cut spending

Whatever the complexion of government, the 1980s would have been a decade of unemployment. In the second of our series on the demographic pressure on public spending, DAVID WALKER, Social Policy Correspondent, looks at population movements in the immediate future and how they will shape the Government's ambition to cut spending.

The present decade is a bleak stretch of years in which to reach a twenty-first birthday. Regardless of national economic policy, the 1980s would have been a time when all jobs were scarce compared with previous years; for those of school-leaving age and young adults, prospects are especially dim.

Next year, 1984, will see the number of those aged 21 reaching a peak. The last pinnacle for this age cohort was 1969 - glory years for youth when higher education was expanding, youth was fashionable and Wilsonian stop-go notwithstanding, jobs were being created.

Now jobs are being lost at a period when the labour force is growing in numbers at a high rate, thanks mainly to the "baby boom" of the late 1950s to the mid-1960s. As a result, school-leavers are now adding more than 130,000 extra to the labour force, and increased numbers of married women are pushing up the total.

Ministers may have thought about trying to encourage women to stay at home and so diminish the pressure for jobs, but demographic evidence shows no sign that women, on whom family spending power has come vitally to depend, will abandon the search for jobs and the money they bring.

Only in the 1990s will the increase in the number of people of an age to work tail off, when the "baby bust" of the 1970s will shape population size. Meanwhile, unless an unprecedented number of new jobs are created, and quickly, today's high unemployment rates are likely to increase further.

Mrs Thatcher's favoured policy may also be knocked away by demographic pressure in the area of housing. The science of household formation is very intricate, but merely simply do not know why people set up house on their own and so get into the market for houses and flats - or join the council waiting list. Simple changes in the age structure of the population give some clues, however, and they point to a sharp rise in household formation taking place now - with the possibility of a marked shortage of housing by the mid-1980s, if house-building does not boom.

Mr John Ermisch, in a newly published study for the Policy Studies Institute, *The Political Economy of Demographic Change*, estimates that about 78,000 extra households will have been created each year between 1981 and 1984; an extra 83,000 a year from 1984 to 87. Taken together with trends in divorce, in single person households, in single person households, a shortage of fit dwellings could be apparent in the later 1980s.

The news is not all bad for Mrs Thatcher. In her theory, large-scale savings should be made in education from the rapid fall in the secondary school population, which will be followed shortly by a drop in the number of 18-year-olds and so less demand for college and university places.

In health, too, the pressure of previous years is off. Demand will remain high and there will be pressures to spend, especially on the elderly, but growth - justified by population movements - should be less for the rest of the 1980s. Mr Ermisch predicts that during the 1990s demographic changes will allow a slight fall in the provision of inpatient hospital services even if standards are kept constant.

Tomorrow: Pensions time-bomb.

**Demanded for new jobs**

The number of potential school-leavers plus increased numbers of women entering pool of available labour

Year	Number per year
1979 to 1981	176,000
1981 to 1982	200,000
1982 to 1983	172,000
1983 to 1984	26,000

Source: The Political Economy of Demographic Change, by John Ermisch

**Overseas selling prices**

1983/84: £1.25 (1982/83: £1.25) 1984/85: £1.25 (1983/84: £1.25) 1985/86: £1.25 (1984/85: £1.25) 1986/87: £1.25 (1985/86: £1.25) 1987/88: £1.25 (1986/87: £1.25) 1988/89: £1.25 (1987/88: £1.25) 1989/90: £1.25 (1988/89: £1.25) 1990/91: £1.25 (1989/90: £1.25) 1991/92: £1.25 (1990/91: £1.25) 1992/93: £1.25 (1991/92: £1.25) 1993/94: £1.25 (1992/93: £1.25) 1994/95: £1.25 (1993/94: £1.25) 1995/96: £1.25 (1994/95: £1.25) 1996/97: £1.25 (1995/96: £1.25) 1997/98: £1.25 (1996/97: £1.25) 1998/99: £1.25 (1997/98: £1.25) 1999/00: £1.25 (1998/99: £1.25) 2000/01: £1.25 (1999/00: £1.25) 2001/02: £1.25 (2000/01: £1.25) 2002/03: £1.25 (2001/02: £1.25) 2003/04: £1.25 (2002/03: £1.25) 2004/05: £1.25 (2003/04: £1.25) 2005/06: £1.25 (2004/05: £1.25) 2006/07: £1.25 (2005/06: £1.25) 2007/08: £1.25 (2006/07: £1.25) 2008/09: £1.25 (2007/08: £1.25) 2009/10: £1.25 (2008/09: £1.25) 2010/11: £1.25 (2009/10: £1.25) 2011/12: £1.25 (2010/11: £1.25) 2012/13: £1.25 (2011/12: £1.25) 2013/14: £1.25 (2012/13: £1.25) 2014/15: £1.25 (2013/14: £1.25) 2015/16: £1.25 (2014/15: £1.25) 2016/17: £1.25 (2015/16: £1.25) 2017/18: £1.25 (2016/17: £1.25) 2018/19: £1.25 (2017/18: £1.25) 2019/20: £1.25 (2018/19: £1.25) 2020/21: £1.25 (2019/20: £1.25) 2021/22: £1.25 (2020/21: £1.25) 2022/23: £1.25 (2021/22: £1.25) 2023/24: £1.25 (2022/23: £1.25) 2024/25: £1.25 (2023/24: £1.25) 2025/26: £1.25 (2024/25: £1.25) 2026/27: £1.25 (2025/26: £1.25) 2027/28: £1.25 (2026/27: £1.25) 2028/29: £1.25 (2027/28: £1.25) 2029/30: £1.25 (2028/29: £1.25) 2030/31: £1.25 (2029/30: £1.25) 2031/32: £1.25 (2030/31: £1.25) 2032/33: £1.25 (2031/32: £1.25) 2033/34: £1.25 (2032/33: £1.25) 2034/35: £1.25 (2033/34: £1.25) 2035/36: £1.25 (2034/35: £1.25) 2036/37: £1.25 (2035/36: £1.25) 2037/38: £1.25 (2036/37: £1.25) 2038/39: £1.25 (2037/38: £1.25) 2039/40: £1.25 (2038/39: £1.25) 2040/41: £1.25 (2039/40: £1.25) 2041/42: £1.25 (2040/41: £1.25) 2042/43: £1.25 (2041/42: £1.25) 2043/44: £1.25 (2042/43: £1.25) 2044/45: £1.25 (2043/44: £1.25) 2045/46: £1.25 (2044/45: £1.25) 2046/47: £1.25 (2045/46: £1.25) 2047/48: £1.25 (2046/47: £1.25) 2048/49: £1.25 (2047/48: £1.25) 2049/50: £1.25 (2048/49: £1.25) 2050/51: £1.25 (2049/50: £1.25) 2051/52: £1.25 (2050/51: £1.25) 2052/53: £1.25 (2051/52: £1.25) 2053/54: £1.25 (2052/53: £1.25) 2054/55: £1.25 (2053/54: £1.25) 2055/56: £1.25 (2054/55: £1.25) 2056/57: £1.25 (2055/56: £1.25) 2057/58: £1.25 (2056/57: £1.25) 2058/59: £1.25 (2057/58: £1.25) 2059/60: £1.25 (2058/59: £1.25) 2060/61: £1.25 (2059/60: £1.25) 2061/62: £1.25 (2060/61: £1.25) 2062/63: £1.25 (2061/62: £1.25) 2063/64: £1.25 (2062/63: £1.25) 2064/65: £1.25 (2063/64: £1.25) 2065/66: £1.25 (2064/65: £1.25) 2066/67: £1.25 (2065/66: £1.25) 2067/68: £1.25 (2066/67: £1.25) 2068/69: £1.25 (2067/68: £1.25) 2069/70: £1.25 (2068/69: £1.25) 2070/71: £1.25 (2069/70: £1.25) 2071/72: £1.25 (2070/71: £1.25) 2072/73: £1.25 (2071/72: £1.25) 2073/74: £1.25 (2072/73: £1.25) 2074/75: £1.25 (2073/74: £1.25) 2075/76: £1.25 (2074/75: £1.25) 2076/77: £1.25 (2075/76: £1.25) 2077/78: £1.25 (2076/77: £1.25) 2078/79: £1.25 (2077/78: £1.25) 2079/80: £1.25 (2078/79: £1.25) 2080/81: £1.25 (2079/80: £1.25) 2081/82: £1.25 (2080/81: £1.25) 2082/83: £1.25 (2081/82: £1.25) 2083/84: £1.25 (2082/83: £1.25) 2084/85: £1.25 (2083/84: £1.25) 2085/86: £1.25 (2084/85: £1.25) 2086/87: £1.25 (2085/86: £1.25) 2087/88: £1.25 (2086/87: £1.25) 2088/89: £1.25 (2087/88: £1.25) 2089/90: £1.25 (2088/89: £1.25) 2090/91: £1.25 (2089/90: £1.25) 2091/92: £1.25 (2090/91: £1.25) 2092/93: £1.25 (2091/92: £1.25) 2093/94: £1.25 (2092/93: £1.25) 2094/95: £1.25 (2093/94: £1.25) 2095/96: £1.25 (2094/95: £1.25) 2096/97: £1.25 (2095/96: £1.25) 2097/98: £1.25 (2096/97: £1.25) 2098/99: £1.25 (2097/98: £1.25) 2099/00: £1.25 (2098/99: £1.25) 2100/01: £1.25 (2099/00: £1.25) 2101/02: £1.25 (2100/01: £1.25) 2102/03: £1.25 (2101/02: £1.25) 2103/04: £1.25 (2102/03: £1.25) 2104/05: £1.25 (2103/04: £1.25) 2105/06: £1.25 (2104/05: £1.25) 2106/07: £1.25 (2105/06: £1.25) 2107/08: £1.25 (2106/07: £1.25) 2108/09: £1.25 (2107/08: £1.25) 2109/10: £1.25 (2108/09: £1.25) 2110/11: £1.25 (2109/10: £1.25) 2111/12: £1.25 (2110/11: £1.25) 2112/13: £1.25 (2111/12: £1.25) 2113/14: £1.25 (2112/13: £1.25) 2114/15: £1.25 (2113/14: £1.25) 2115/16: £1.25 (2114/15: £1.25) 2116/17: £1.25 (2115/16: £1.25) 2117/18: £1.25 (2116/17: £1.25) 2118/19: £1.25 (2117/18: £1.25) 2119/20: £1.25 (2118/19: £1.25) 2120/21: £1.25 (2119/20: £1.25) 2121/22: £1.25 (2120/21: £1.25) 2122/23: £1.25 (2121/22: £1.25) 2123/24: £1.25 (2122/23: £1.25) 2124/25: £1.25 (2123/24: £1.25) 2125/26: £1.25 (2124/25: £1.25) 2126/27: £1.25 (2125/26: £1.25) 2127/28: £1.25 (2126/27: £1.25) 2128/29: £1.25 (2127/28: £1.25) 2129/30: £1.25 (2128/29: £1.25) 2130/31: £1.25 (2129/30: £1.25) 2131/32: £1.25 (2130/31: £1.25) 2132/33: £1.25 (2131/32: £1.25) 2133/34: £1.25 (2132/33: £1.25) 2134/35: £1.25 (2133/34: £1.25) 2135/36: £1.25 (2134/35: £1.25) 2136/37: £1.25 (2135/36: £1.25) 2137/38: £1.25 (2136/37: £1.25) 2138/39: £1.25 (2137/38: £1.25) 2139/40: £1.25 (2138/39: £1.25) 2140/41: £1.25 (2139/40: £1.25) 2141/42: £1.25 (2140/41: £1.25) 2142/43: £1.25 (2141/42: £1.25) 2143/44: £1.25 (2142/43: £1.25) 2144/45: £1.25 (2143/44: £1.25) 2145/46: £1.25 (2144/45: £1.25) 2146/47: £1.25 (2145/46: £1.25) 2147/48: £1.25 (2146/47: £1.25) 2148/49: £1.25 (2147/48: £1.25) 2149/50: £1.25 (2148/49: £1.25) 2150/51: £1.25 (2149/50: £1.25) 2151/52: £1.25 (2150/51: £1.25) 2152/53: £1.25 (2151/52: £1.25) 2153/54: £1.25 (2152/53: £1.25) 2154/55: £1.25 (2153/54: £1.25) 2155/56: £1.25 (2154/55: £1.25) 2156/57: £1.25 (2155/56: £1.25) 2157/58: £1.25 (2156/57: £1.25) 2158/59: £1.25 (2157/58: £1.25) 2159/60: £1.25 (2158/59: £1.25) 2160/61: £1.25 (2159/60: £1.25) 2161/62: £1.25 (2160/61: £1.25) 2162/63: £1.25 (2161/62: £1.25) 2163/64: £1.25 (2162/63: £1.25) 2164/65: £1.25 (2163/64: £1.25) 2165/66: £1.25 (2164/65: £1.25) 2166/67: £1.25 (2165/66: £1.25) 2167/68: £1.25 (2166/67: £1.25) 2168/69: £1.25 (2167/68: £1.25) 2169/70: £1.25 (2168/69: £1.25) 2170/71: £1.25 (2169/70: £1.25) 2171/72: £1.25 (2170/71: £1.25) 2172/73: £1.25 (2171/72: £1.25) 2173/74: £1.25 (2172/73: £1.25) 2174/75: £1.25 (2173/74: £1.25) 2175/76: £1.25 (2174/75: £1.25) 2176/77: £1.25 (2175/76: £1.25) 2177/78: £1.25 (2176/77: £1.25) 2178/79: £1.25 (2177/78: £1.25) 2179/80: £1.25 (2178/79: £1.25) 2180/81: £1.25 (2179/80: £1.25) 2181/82: £1.25 (2180/81: £1.25) 2182/83: £1.25 (2181/82: £1.25) 2183/84: £1.25 (2182/83: £1.25) 2184/85: £1.25 (2183/84: £1.25) 2185/86: £1.25 (2184/85: £1.25) 2186/87: £1.25 (2185/86: £1.25) 2187/88: £1.25 (2186/87: £1.25) 2188/89: £1.25 (2187/88: £1.25)



# Unearthed skull which led to confession was Roman, murder trial jury told

A man confessed to strangling his wife and cutting her up with an axe more than 20 years ago after the discovery of a human skull in May a jury was told yesterday. But the skull was later found to date from 410 AD.

Mr Martin Thomas QC, for the prosecution, told Chester Crown Court that no trace had been found of Malika Maria De Fernandez, who disappeared on or about October 27, 1960.

Her husband, a former BOAC airline official, Peter Reyn-Bardt, aged 57, from Knightsbridge, west London, pleaded not guilty yesterday to murder between October 27, 1960, and June 30, 1961.

The skull's discovery in Wilmslow, near Stockport, led directly to the arrest and confession, Mr Thomas said. It was tested by the department of archaeology at Oxford University.

"The tests were not completed until October 12. But the conclusions were that the subject of the skull died in the year 410 AD, just before the Roman legions departed.

Mr Reyn-Bardt, a homosexual, had met his wife on March 25, 1959, while she was working as a waitress in the Zanzibar Coffee Bar in Manchester, Mr Thomas said.

She was slim, with long black hair worn in a Spanish style. She looked Spanish, but spoke English without an accent. "Who precisely she was, her nationality, her background has never been properly established."

Mr Thomas said that within two hours they were engaged and married on March 28 "in a burst of publicity" in the press and on television. Her age was given as 32.

"He was in some trouble with his employers over overt homosexuality and the marriage gave him respectability. She apparently loved to travel and could get free air travel through his position as station officer."

They moved into a house in Greater Manchester, but it was always a marriage of convenience, Mr Thomas said. However, Mr Reyn-Bardt's association with a young man, Philip Clark, caused friction.

It came to a head in November, when she moved out.

In January, 1983, Mr Reyn-Bardt was asked by two policemen whether he had killed his wife, Mr Thomas said. He replied: "Good gracious, no."

But, on May 13 an excavator driver found a human skull, thought to be that of a female aged between 30 and 50, about 300 yards from the cottage. Detectives arrested Mr Reyn-Bardt.

He is alleged to have said that he murdered her that day because she threatened to expose his homosexuality unless he paid her more money. The trial continues today.



Peter Reyn-Bardt and Malika on their wedding day.

## Estate agents might take on conveyancing

**By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent**

Estate agents are likely to provide competition for solicitors in conveyancing if Mr Austin Mitchell's House Buyers Bill becomes law, the Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers said yesterday.

Commenting on the Bill, which has its second reading on Friday, the society says that it is unaware of any significant demand from house agents to undertake conveyancing, but "if the Bill is enacted and building societies will be empowered to offer this service and in order to compete, many agents will feel compelled to follow suit."

Concerned about the risks involved for the house buyers if the solicitor's monopoly is ended, the society believes that in spite of safeguards built into the Bill, including limiting non-solicitors to do the conveyancing on property with registered title only, the risk of mistake is merely reduced, not eradicated.

"The society remain firmly of the opinion that not only should all conveyancers undergo a course of training, but they should also have a sound basic knowledge of property law."

Mr Brian Grainger, president of the society, said that it was constantly trying to find ways of reducing costs and speeding property transactions but "this must never be at the expense of professional competence."

A Conservative pressure group, the National Association of Conservative Graduates yesterday gave its support to Mr Mitchell's Bill.

"The Government's stance has been equivocal and unconvincing."

"If (which we very much doubt) the Law Society's arguments against this narrowing of their monopoly are right, then solicitors have nothing to fear because the competition will eventually win their way," the association said.

## Arrested lawyer claims damages from the police

A solicitor was accused of theft, arrested in a busy court building and kept in a police cell, a jury at the High Court in Manchester was told yesterday.

But David Middleweek, aged 44, was never prosecuted. His counsel Mr John Huggill QC told the court that the conduct of the police had been "quite outrageous and without justification."

Mr Middleweek, a partner in a Manchester firm, was detained for more than two hours in Liverpool's main police station. Then, in the hearing of others he was told he was being bailed on suspicion of stealing a police document.

Mr Middleweek is claiming damages, alleging wrongful arrest, unlawful search, false imprisonment and defamation from the Chief Constable of Merseyside and Inspector William Coady.

The hearing continues today.

## Complaint over 'Koo' Stark story upheld

The Press Council has upheld a complaint that *The Sun* invaded the Royal Family's privacy by publishing information about Prince Andrew and Miss Kathleen (Koo) Stark supplied by a former royal servant.

The material should not have been published, the council said, because it related to matters which were essentially private. Despite great interest in the Royal Family's activities there was an area of life and conduct which they and their guests could regard as private.

Only the first day's material in what was intended to be a series was published because *The Sun* became subject to legal proceedings brought on behalf of The Queen, and publication was halted. The action was settled within days, one of the terms being that no further articles would be published.

## Antifreeze test failed by garages

**By Robin Young**

How can motorists be certain there is enough antifreeze in their cars to withstand winter's low temperatures? The answer, according to West Midlands County Council's consumer services department, is that they cannot, unless they drain the system and refill with the appropriate mixture.

The department filled a test vehicle's cooling system with rather more antifreeze than the manufacturers recommended, then took it to 20 garages selected at random, asking them to check whether any antifreeze was needed. Only four garages agreed there was sufficient antifreeze in the car. Five claimed there was no antifreeze in the system at all, and three of the garages which encouraged the researchers to spend money unnecessarily on buying antifreeze also charged 50p for carrying out the test.

The method of test varied. Most used some form of tester, but others did it by licking a finger dipped in the system and judging by taste. That method is not recommended for do-it-yourself tests as the methanol in some antifreezes can be poisonous.

## Third firm cuts holiday prices

Britain's third largest holiday company, Horizon, yesterday joined its two main rivals by reprinting its 1984 summer brochure with an average of 10 per cent price cuts.

The latest move in the price war follows the market leader, Thomson Holidays, relaunching its brochure with 10 per cent cuts on average, and Intersun, the second largest company, reducing prices by an average of 9 per cent.

## Body on shore

The body of Jason Collins, aged 12, of Wiltshire Road, Skelton, Cleveland, was found washed ashore yesterday at Saltburn-by-the-Sea, near where the fishing boat Venus had overturned the night before. He had gone fishing with his uncle and another man who both scrambled to safety.

## Villa discovery

Archaeologists have discovered the remains of a Roman house, built about 300 AD, in Spring Hill, Lincoln. It had an ornate mosaic floor and a hypocaust. Flats are to be built on the site.



Indian epic: Members of the Kala Kendra dance and drama company from Delhi at the Commonwealth Institute in London yesterday. The group, which is on a European tour, will give performances this week, including a presentation of *Ram Lila*, a famous Indian morality tale of gods, kings, princesses and undying love. (Photograph: John Voos).

## Call to ban private shoplifting writs

**By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent**

Leave to introduce a private members' Bill to ban private shoplifting prosecutions is being sought on January 16 by Mr Greville Janner QC, Labour MP for Leicester West.

The Bill would also require the police to follow the Essex force's system of cautions in appropriate cases, including those involving the elderly and infirm.

Mr Janner says in a letter to Mr David Mellor, Under Secretary at the Home Office, that Leicestershire Police have followed the example of Essex.

Leicestershire Police were the prosecuting authority in the case of Lady Barnett, of Cossington, Leicestershire, a friend of Mr Janner, who killed herself in 1980 four days after her conviction at Leicester Crown Court for stealing a carton of cream and a tin of tuna fish, valued at 75p, from a village store.

"The dock was no place for poor Lady-Isobel Barnett", Mr Janner said in a letter to *The Times* on December 2.

Mr Janner's move to introduce the Bill also follows the decision by F W Woolworth to prosecute a widow aged 77, for shoplifting. Mr Recorder Goldstein described the action as "an affront to British justice."

After the judge's comments, Mr Richard Newcombe for Woolworth decided not to proceed with the case and a formal verdict of not guilty was recorded. Woolworth protested to the Lord Chancellor about the judge's comments.

But Mr Mellor has replied to Mr Janner that there can be no justification for restricting, in general, access to the courts by private prosecutors as proposed by the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure.

Referring to alternatives to prosecution, used by Essex Police, Mr Mellor says that a working group of chief constables and officials is aware of the forces practice and of cautioning schemes used elsewhere.

## Film fans must pay more for 007

Cinema goers will have to pay extra to see two hit films this Christmas.

Prices are to be increased at one hundred ABC cinemas for the new James Bond film, *Never Say Never Again*, starring Sean Connery, and the thriller *Jaws 3-D*. Adults will pay an extra 50p and children an extra 25p.

Thorn EMI, which owns the cinema chain, says that increasing prices for "blockbusters" is one way to bring more money into the troubled film industry.

*Never Say Never Again* has proved the most successful Bond film ever in the United States. The two new films together have grossed more than £100m already.

Thorn EMI's marketing director, Mr Philip Nugus, said: "Putting up prices for individual films is a gamble. But audience research has shown that many people are prepared to pay more for the big-budget, high quality film."

"That means we can spend more on publicity and so attract more money back into the industry to be used on improving cinema standards."

"We are experimenting with this system instead of putting up all seat prices in the new year."

"People who can afford to go to the cinema will do so anyway. For them 50p is not a great deal."

## Pub video licence ruling

A ruling by councillors in Dudley, West Midlands, could lead to thousands of public houses all over the country having to be licensed as cinemas at a fee of more than £50.

The Dudley environmental health committee has decided that the Windmill in the village of Lye, which has one of the new video jukeboxes, must be licensed under the Cinematograph (Amendments) Act, which came into force a year ago.

Other councils are believed to be facing similar decisions. If the ruling stands it could mean public houses and wine bars with video jukeboxes having to apply annually for cinema licences and submit to inspection by the fire brigade and environmental health officials.

## Doctors win closure reprieve

A group of family doctors have won a High Court order forcing a health authority to reconsider closing their hospital.

Mr Justice Woolf ruled yesterday that Hillingdon Health Authority had acted unlawfully when it made a decision to close the 53-year-old Northwood, Pinner and District Hospital.

In September the authority had decided to close the hospital temporarily because of overspending in the district which would have reached £1m unless drastic measures were taken. A temporary shutdown leading to permanent closure would save £358,000 in a full year.

However, Hillingdon had not taken account of the doctors' three-month contracts and although the authority had now issued termination notices ending the contracts in February, their September decision was quashed.

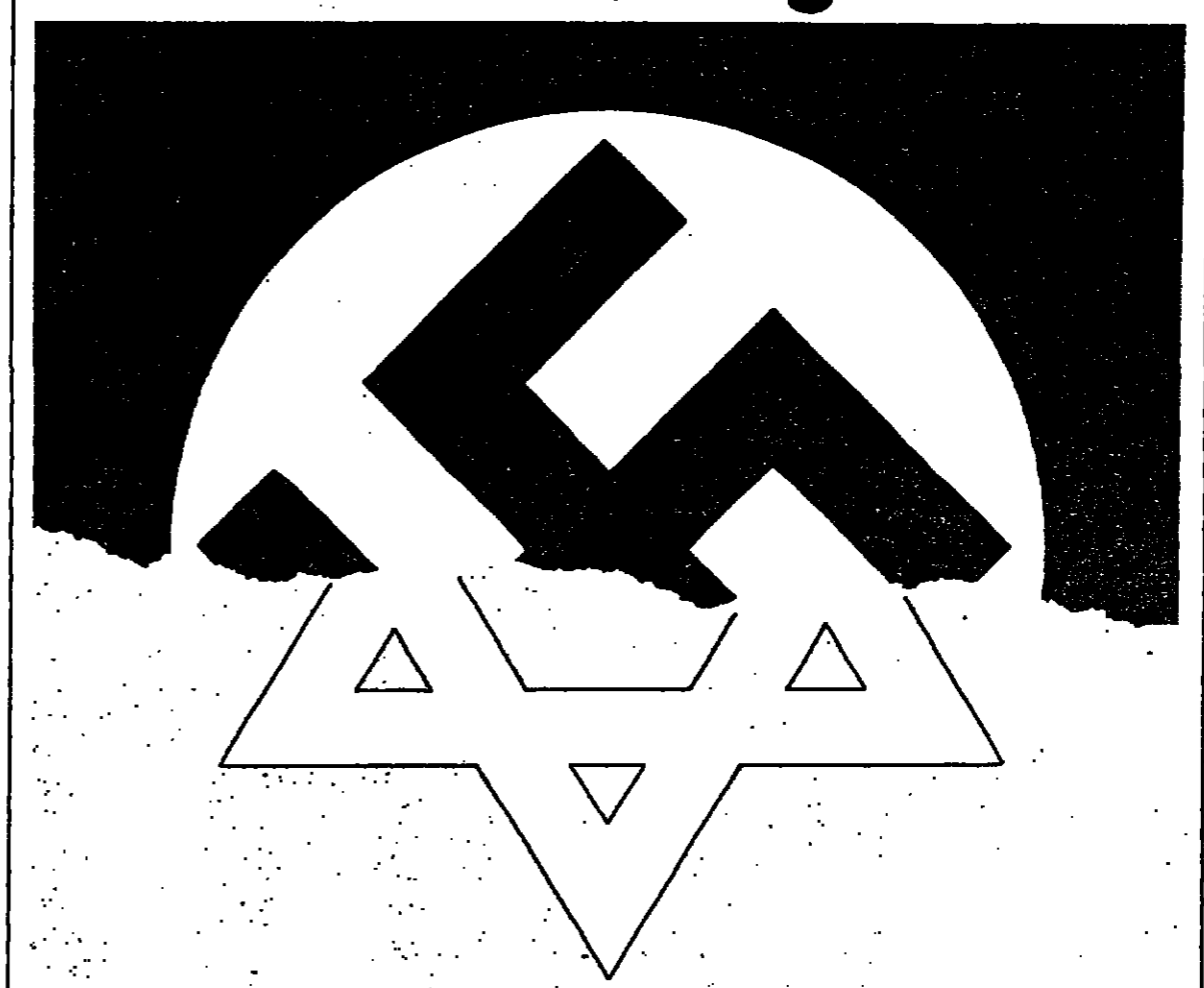
The hospital which has 36 beds, has remained open pending the outcome of the court action. The judge said his order would only add a short additional delay before the authority met to reconsider the question of closure.

The first decision had been supported by only a small majority and the judge said they were entitled to come to the same decision again but he recognized that there could be a different decision.

Dr Paul Goodwin, chairman of the doctors' committee that runs the hospital said: "We are delighted."

Law Report, page 21

# SPY FOR THE NAZIS, SAVIOUR OF JEWS.



Oskar Schindler. Trusted by the SS, yet the only German to save over one thousand Jews from extermination in Hitler's death camps.

**SCHINDLER**

SCHINDLER, THE EXTRAORDINARY TRUE STORY, NARRATED BY DIRK BOGARDE, 9.30 TONIGHT, ON THAMES TELEVISION.

The Booker Prize winning novel 'Schindler's Ark' by Thomas Keneally is published by Coronet Books in paperback.

**CHRISTMAS ORIENT-EXPRESS STYLE**

Gifts from £5.00-£5,000

For really exclusive Christmas gifts, visit the Collection Venice Simplon-Orient-Express boutique in Mayfair. You will find a superb range of luxury items based on original Orient-Express designs, priced from a few pounds upwards.

For someone really special, what could be better than a ticket for the train itself - gift vouchers for journeys and Pullman Day Excursions are now available.

The boutique is open from 9.30 to 6.00 Monday to Friday, late opening until 8.00 on Thursdays.

**ORIENT-EXPRESS**

COLLECTION VENICE SIMPLON-ORIENT-EXPRESS

31 Berkeley Street, Mayfair, London W1. Tel: 01-629 1637

© Venice Simplon-Orient-Express Ltd, 1983

## Lorry used to transfer hospital patient

**From Our Correspondent Peterborough**

The management of the Fitzwilliam private hospital which opened at Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, this year at a cost of £4m has admitted moving a badly injured patient in the back of a rented lorry.

The hospital's branch of the National Union of Public Employees published a photograph of the incident on the front page of its December newsletter yesterday with the headline: "Yes, for just £107 a day, you too could be carted about in the back of a lorry."

The patient was a man who had broken his pelvis and was in traction in a bed complete with frame.

Mr Mike Radford, union branch secretary, said: "The lorry was totally lacking in the basic requirements such as adequate interior lighting, heat-

ing, windows, medical aid equipment, and means of securing the bed. The driver also told us that his previous load had been Tarmac. If this had been a National Health Service patient there would have been a public outcry."

The lorry took the patient two miles from the Peterborough district hospital to the 44-bed Fitzwilliam hospital, where he was moved into a private room where the fees are more than £100 a day.

The hospital's manager, Mr Malcolm Fellowes-Freeman, said yesterday that the removal was an isolated incident and not the normal method of moving patients. He added: "In practical terms, that was the best way to transfer the patient because the ambulance authority did not have the facilities

## South-east spends more for Christmas

**By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor**

Shoppers in the South-east, particularly in London, are already promising the retail trade there a better Christmas than last year. But reports are bleaker from other regions.

Table wine sales, already on an upward trend as spirits and beer sales have decreased, have again increased and an annual record sale of wines, including ports and sherries, should reach about 750 million bottles by the end of the year, according to the Wine and Spirit Association.

Toy sales for the year are expected to be up by at least 6 per cent to more than £700m worth, according to the National Association of Toy Retailers. An early start to Christmas selling saw sales at Hamleys in Regent Street up by 36 per cent in the first half of November and sales are still running strongly.

But in Sheffield, Redgates, one of the biggest toy retailers in the North of England, has so far been only matching sales volumes of last year, which proved a relatively disappointing Christmas.

While Christmas shopping in the South of England started early there is a noticeable tendency to later shopping in the North.

Cole Brothers, a Sheffield department store which is part of the John Lewis Partnership, saw sales decline by 4.5 per cent in the week ended November 26, compared with the same week a year ago. But in the following week to December 3 sales were up by 4.5 per cent.

John Lewis, which has a score of department stores, has seen its best results in the first week of this month in the South-east. Overall sales in the week-ended December 3 were 11 per cent up, just short of the group's projected increase. Toy, radio and television sales were up by nearly 15 per cent.

## November sales up

Spending in the shops gathered pace again in November after dipping slightly the previous month, according to provisional figures from the Department of Trade and Industry (Peter Wilson-Smith writes).

The retail sales index, which measures the seasonally adjusted volume of trade in the shops, rose by 1.1 per cent between October and November to a provisional 116.5. This was still below the record 117.3 in September.

19  
S  
quality outland st will o take South July- ing a m.  
Lord world would ionals edict- i has ord's could th meet- s the South plant the up the for if tour e his being irt of 350n. ys he alian staff f the an- ernive. It is onal uth om- l be one Can ppy it the sign ord. very s to tore  
f  
tree ates tent ing ord oct 3rn  
l as as a san stol has his ter, a tes al.



# 1985 target date for sale of British Airways

## PRIVATIZATION

British Airways is to be established as a public limited company next year and sold to the public as soon as possible, probably in early 1985, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, said in a Commons statement.

He had not yet reached a decision on whether a capital reconstruction of the airline would be necessary, Mr Ridley said. The Government's intention of moving British Airways into the private sector was announced by the then Secretary of State for Trade in July 1979. Legislation to achieve this was passed in the Civil Aviation Act 1981.

Our original intention was to go ahead with a sale soon after the passing of the Act, but the decline in the airline's profits in 1979-80 and the large losses in the two subsequent years made that impracticable.

Over the last two years, however, decisiveness on the part of management and determined cooperation from the workforce have sharply improved British Airways' productivity and the airline industry is now emerging from the world recession.

British Airways made a net profit of £77m in the financial year ended last March, and they are set to make significantly higher profits this year.

British Airways have also begun to restore their balance sheet. Since March they have repaid well over £100m of borrowings without any assistance from the Government.

Their external finance limit fixed for 1984/85 means they expect British Airways to repay at least £160m of borrowings next year.

Following this transformation of British Airways' financial prospects I have decided to aim for privatization as soon as possible, hopefully in early 1985. To this end I propose to establish British Airways as a public limited company under Government ownership in accordance with the 1980 Act.

I am accordingly arranging for the registration of a public limited company under the name of British Airways Plc without at this stage giving it the right to trade, and I shall shortly make an order nominating it as the successor company to the British Airways Board under section 3(2) of the 1980 Act.

I also propose soon to make an order under section 10(1) of the 1980 Act appointing April 1, 1984 as the date on which the proposed rights, liabilities and obligations of the British Airways Board in the UK are vested in British Airways Plc.

All this needs to be done well in advance of vesting to allow time for the necessary administrative steps, such as arranging the transfer of overseas property and rights from the British Airways Board to British Airways Plc.

Shortly before vesting British Airways Plc should be issued with a certificate to trade under section 4 of the Companies Act 1980, so that



Robinson: Minister being dishonest without much difficulty

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, appealed to all MPs to join him in condemning the National Graphical Association's further recourse to indiscriminate and damaging industrial action in calling a one-day strike for Wednesday, but the Opposition did not respond.

Mr King responded to the invitation by Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on employment, that he should invite the parties to the dispute to meet at the Department of Employment.

Mr Smith said that the setting up of the Advisory and Conciliation Board had not removed from the Secretary of State for Employment the duty of resolving industrial disputes placed on him by Parliament. Mr King replied that he had not sought to dissociate the Government from that and had invited Mr Smith to join him in seeking to achieve that within the response of Mr Smith had signally failed to do so.

In a statement Mr King said: Further negotiations between the Stockport Messenger Group and the NGA did not result in any agreement last week under ACAS chairmanship. These lengthy negotiations ended without agreement in the early hours of Friday morning.

Will Mr Ridley give an assurance that the bulk of these debts will be paid by BA before privatization, otherwise it is to be sold at a knock-down price a major national asset at less than half its value?

Mr Ridley: Mr Robinson is wrong in his suggestion that there is any dishonesty in anything I have said. Not only is it possible for BA to earn a great deal more profits, in the way they are going now they seem set fair to do so in the timescale I have set out. They can do other things to improve their balance sheet.

The board will review the value of their assets between now and the time they can certify that the assets are reasonably valued in the published balance sheets. They will consider if there are good grounds for revaluing particular assets.

Mr David Howell (Guildford, C) said that after privatization BA would still be the most significant domestic European and inter-continental airline.

An opportunity (he said) should be taken for creating new routes, in which at least two, rather than one, substantial airline operator can be created from this situation for the benefit of customers and competition.

Mr Ridley said Parliament had taken the power from the Government to alter the allocation of routes and made it subject to the consent of the Civil Aviation Authority. This was why he had asked it to look at its policy in this respect. What Mr Howell said was surely being taken into consideration by the CAA.

During later questions Mr Ridley said that airport policy could be within the scope of the CAA review. On competition, he said this was with the foreign airline on the same route for the vast majority of Britain's designated overseas routes.

There could not be competition to get onto routes where there was not a designation.

# All MPs urged to condemn strike by print workers

## NGA DISPUTE

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, appealed to all MPs to join him in condemning the National Graphical Association's further recourse to indiscriminate and damaging industrial action in calling a one-day strike for Wednesday, but the Opposition did not respond.

Mr King responded to the invitation by Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on employment, that he should invite the parties to the dispute to meet at the Department of Employment.

Mr Smith said that the setting up of the Advisory and Conciliation Board had not removed from the Secretary of State for Employment the duty of resolving industrial disputes placed on him by Parliament. Mr King replied that he had not sought to dissociate the Government from that and had invited Mr Smith to join him in seeking to achieve that within the response of Mr Smith had signally failed to do so.

In a statement Mr King said: Further negotiations between the Stockport Messenger Group and the NGA did not result in any agreement last week under ACAS chairmanship. These lengthy negotiations ended without agreement in the early hours of Friday morning.

Will Mr Ridley give an assurance that the bulk of these debts will be paid by BA before privatization, otherwise it is to be sold at a knock-down price a major national asset at less than half its value?

Mr Ridley: Mr Robinson is wrong in his suggestion that there is any dishonesty in anything I have said. Not only is it possible for BA to earn a great deal more profits, in the way they are going now they seem set fair to do so in the timescale I have set out. They can do other things to improve their balance sheet.

The board will review the value of their assets between now and the time they can certify that the assets are reasonably valued in the published balance sheets. They will consider if there are good grounds for revaluing particular assets.

Mr David Howell (Guildford, C) said that after privatization BA would still be the most significant domestic European and inter-continental airline.

An opportunity (he said) should be taken for creating new routes, in which at least two, rather than one, substantial airline operator can be created from this situation for the benefit of customers and competition.

Mr Ridley said Parliament had taken the power from the Government to alter the allocation of routes and made it subject to the consent of the Civil Aviation Authority. This was why he had asked it to look at its policy in this respect. What Mr Howell said was surely being taken into consideration by the CAA.

During later questions Mr Ridley said that airport policy could be within the scope of the CAA review. On competition, he said this was with the foreign airline on the same route for the vast majority of Britain's designated overseas routes.

There could not be competition to get onto routes where there was not a designation.

negotiation held before Acas will not be heard by at least one side as an entirely accurate and unbiased account of events.

Between now and Wednesday there is time to avoid a national printing strike and as Secretary of State for Employment, Mr King has a responsibility to foster good industrial relations. As the nation is faced with what could become a damaging national dispute, it is his duty to help all sides to find a settlement.

He should invite the parties now to meet today (Monday) or tomorrow at the Department of Employment to discuss ways of avoiding the conflict. If he does not do so, he is missing an opportunity of an intelligent initiative by the responsible industrialists who must tip the balance towards a settlement.

Mr King: I have sought to represent the facts of the dispute as fairly as I could, and the House will notice what certain MPs did not appear to accept last time I made a statement - that this dispute is a statement of imposition of a closed shop. It is clear that the reinstatement of the six could be resolved by mutual agreement. This dispute is clearly seen for what it is - an attempt to impose a closed shop against the wishes of the employees of the firm concerned.



Dr David Owen, leader of the SDP: I believe that Mr King is right not to intervene.

Dr David Owen, leader of the SDP: I believe that Mr King is right not to intervene. His main effort should be in trying to urge the TUC to assert the principle which the TUC has always upheld - the rule of law - and that the TUC should not sanction any further action by the NGA in defiance of the law.

Mr King: I do not wish to anticipate the views of the TUC. If the TUC is concerned, as it must be, for respect for trade unions, it must be concerned to see that unions operate within the law.

Mr John Gort (Hendon, North, C): Will Mr King continue to resist the blandishments of the Opposition for him personally to intervene in this dispute?

Mr King: I have not found them very blandishing so far. I have no intention of being dragged in by those sort of siren calls, as though a minister has superior ability over the professional experience of Acas.

Mr Michael Howard (Folkestone, C): The NGA is so keen to get a closed shop when the workers do not want it, so that they should be able in future to make those workers strike against their will on pain of exclusion from the industry. It is disgraceful that the Opposition by its silence is prepared to condone such behaviour.

Mr King: I would have thought that the Opposition on reflection must realize that it is and must be ever-ready to belong or not to belong.

Mr John Ryman (Blyth Valley, Lab): Will Mr King continue to shirk his responsibility on the slender pretext that there is statutory machinery in existence?

Mr King: I have recognized my first statutory responsibility, to make sure that the Government has the machinery which exist under statute for resolution of this sort of dispute are available.

# Diplomatic cars to get much less immunity

## ROAD TRAFFIC

The Government is taking action to significantly reduce the number of diplomatic vehicles which are able to escape fines penalties and wheel clamping through claiming diplomatic immunity, Lord Elton, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, told the House of Lords during a question time.

In answer to a question by Lord Balfour of Inchrye, (C) about the problem of the parking of diplomatic vehicles, Lord Elton said: We have completed a detailed review of the wheel clamping of diplomatic vehicles. This has confirmed that such clamping would be in breach of the Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations and it is, therefore, not legally possible to apply wheel clamps to such vehicles.

Instead we propose to tackle the wider problem arising from the numbers of diplomatic vehicles in London. The Government is introducing new arrangements to reduce their numbers.

The first measures which are able to distinguish which exists between different types of diplomatic immunity. Representatives of certain international organizations, such as the UN, Nato, and consular staff, are not entitled to full immunity but only to immunity in connection with the acts arising from their official duties.

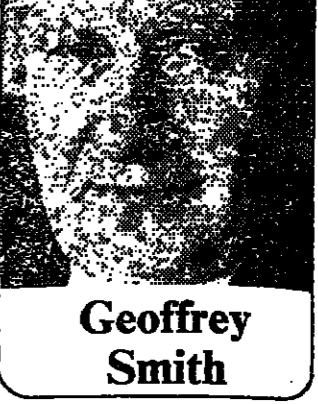
Other representatives are at present issued with category X registration plates which are also issued to certain staff entitled to full immunity. In future, X registered plates will be limited to maximum of one set per notified diplomat per mission.

Thirdly, the issue of D plates for private vehicles will be limited to a maximum of two sets per diplomatic mission.

These measures should result in a significant reduction in the number of vehicles exempt from wheel clamping.

There were 5,718 vehicles in London carrying diplomatic immunity and in the first nine months of this year 74,674 fixed notice penalties had been cancelled on the grounds of diplomatic immunity.

In only two instances had members of British missions abroad had their vehicles clamped. On each occasion the fine had been paid.



Geoffrey Smith

Mrs Thatcher's message to President Alfonsín of Argentina marks a new phase in the Falklands saga. It also indicates a significant development in her own premiership. It confirms that she is now prepared to be influenced by the advice of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

After the Argentine invasion of the Falklands, the Foreign Office was very much out of favour. Mrs Thatcher had never had much rapport with professional diplomats, and she came to the conclusion then that they had let her down.

By about the beginning of this year the Prime Minister's attitude had evidently mellowed. But the first notable indication that she had become receptive to Foreign Office advice came at the Conservative Party conference in October, when she spoke of the need for dialogue with the Soviet Union.

**Virtues of active diplomacy**

This did not exactly conflict with what she had said in Washington a fortnight before when receiving the Winston Churchill Foundation award. But the balance and tone of her Blackpool speech were very different; and her Goldhill speech a month ago, in which she announced her intention to visit Hungary early next year, was in keeping with the new style.

It is an approach that accords precisely with Foreign Office thinking, with its belief in the value of keeping open the lines of communication with the East so as both to control the rise of international tension and to create the conditions in which a disarmament agreement might be negotiated.

One is tempted to suggest that Mrs Thatcher's response to the invasion of Grenada also had the mark of Foreign Office influence. Certainly, it too was in line with the analyses of the FCO, which did not believe that the United States had sufficient justification for its action on the basis of the evidence then available either in London or in Washington - whatever may have been subsequently discovered about the Cuban arms build-up on the island. But this seems to have been an instance where the Prime Minister and the Foreign Office came independently to the same conclusion.

The Argentine initiative, however, clearly bears the stamp of the FCO. It is not just that the Foreign Office has always believed in the need for a deal sometime with Argentina. Professional diplomats see the advantages of starting a process of discussion without specifying exactly where it should lead. But one would not have thought that this kind of tentative, indirect, conciliatory approach was quite Mrs Thatcher's style.

It is all the more remarkable that she should become influenced by FCO thinking at a time when the Foreign Secretary himself is not particularly strong. Sir Geoffrey Howe has had an uncomfortable few months since his transfer from the Treasury. He is one of the most resilient of politicians, but his air of battered doggedness has enabled him neither to command the Commons nor to cut an imposing figure on the international stage.

**The need for professionalism**

No doubt he carries more weight with Mrs Thatcher than his immediate predecessor, Mr Francis Pym, who neither enjoyed a happy relationship with the Prime Minister nor seemed well placed in that post. But by far the strongest of Mrs Thatcher's Foreign Secretaries has been Lord Carrington. He could persuade her to change her mind, although usually after long and bruising argument. But that was essentially a personal influence rather than that of a department.

Perhaps that may be what we are seeing again. The softening of Mrs Thatcher's attitude towards the FCO became apparent shortly after Sir Anthony Parsons became her special adviser on foreign affairs a year ago. Her acceptance of the case for a dialogue with the East became evident shortly after Sir Anthony wrote her a paper on that theme a few months ago.

In his new job Sir Anthony has been a valuable link between the Prime Minister and his former colleagues in the FCO. But he finally retired at the end of last year. It will be a pity if the Foreign Office influence goes with him. The conduct of international affairs requires professionalism, provided it is recognized that professionalism is not enough.

One of Mrs Thatcher's greatest qualities, in foreign policy as in other fields, is a refusal to be deterred by odds that would daunt most reasonable, well-informed people.

# BL heading for private sector

## INDUSTRY

BL as individual parts of it moved into profit took no account of the cyclical nature of the sales of its products. No one could expect this to happen overnight.

BL is well on course to break even at the trading level this year. The progress of Jaguar had been even more spectacular. It had been a year of real success. Jaguar cars looked set to overtake Saab as the prime United Kingdom export to the United States.

A story in *The Guardian* about the possibility of Nissan purchasing Austin Rover was untrue.

Contrary to what had appeared in some newspapers, no decision had yet been made by Nissan. Nissan would be welcome in Britain provided that the project had a high level of local content. It would only be a project that in net terms would add to the UK both in terms of output and in terms of employment.

The motion was agreed to.

# Pressure groups attacked for activities

## HOUSE OF LORDS

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, attacked what he described as the cruelty of those who had deliberately unsettled and unsettled people in many organizations, including the National Council of Women, had approached her about it. She had received a sad letter from a 64-year-old woman who has been divorced, asking if her monthly allowance would be stopped. She had reassured her about this.

The Bill's effect could be to cause women to be continually looking over their shoulder for future consequences. A whole range of family consequences needed to be taken into account. The amendment gave guidance on the kind of factors the court should consider. It had an anti-handicap approach to both parties to a divorce.

Lord Rawlinson of Ewell (C) said that an extraordinary amount of distortion had occurred before the terms of the Bill were properly examined. The words which the amendment would insert were unnecessary and otiose. The Bill already said everything that a court needed to take into account to do fairness to both parties.

Lord Hailsham said that they could not draft an Act simply to meet public opinion, but that the instruction to the courts to do something in a particular way.

He hoped they would be able to bring to those who were potentially affected by the Bill exactly what the Government had in mind.

The draftsman would like to have another look at the section to see if the criteria as set out was the right criteria. The amendment would be considered.

Lord Malsban, for the Opposition, said the media had put the Bill

# Participation in waterways business

Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Secretary of State for Wales, said in a Commons written reply on privatization:

The British Waterways Board is financed as to 85 per cent of its total income by annual grants from the Exchequer. An objective currently under discussion with the board is that it should increase opportunities for private sector participation in its business, for example by direct investment, contracting out joint ventures and hiring off.

# Severn decisions early in the new year

Mr Nicholas Edwards, the Secretary of State for Wales, said during questions in the Commons that he was determined to maintain the Severn Bridge, a vital artery into Wales and of fundamental importance to the economy of South Wales.

The Government was making an assessment about the strengthening required on the existing bridge and alongside that, considering the question of a second crossing. The Secretary of State for Transport (Mr Nicholas Ridley) hoped to make an early statement to the House on both of these matters. This was more likely to be in the new year than before Christmas.

Asked by Mr Roy Hughes (Newport East, Lab) what steps he was taking to improve the motorway access into Wales, Mr Edwards said he worked in close cooperation with the Secretary of State for Transport to ensure the best possible motorway access into Wales.

Mr Hughes will be confirm that the Severn Bridge on the M4 is the only stretch of motorway in the whole of the United Kingdom on which tolls are collected?

Mr Edwards: The important matter of the moment is not the question of tolls, which have been operated under successive Governments but to ensure the security of this vital crossing to Wales.

Sir Raymond Gower (Vale of Glamorgan, C): Nevertheless, would it not make some improvement to the flow of traffic if the tolls for the crossing were collected on the Welsh side entering Wales on the other side?

Mr Edwards: Mr Ridley is taking a close look at all the measures which operate the bridge to see if he can eliminate any unnecessary delay. This is certainly one of the things that is being looked at.

# Welsh improvement grants backlog will be honoured - Minister

## HOUSING

A total of 90,000 home improvement grant applications are outstanding in the next House of Commons.

Mr Dafydd Wigley (Caernarfon, Pl C): This represents a saga of monumental blunders by the Welsh Office. It is unrealistic to end the right to free grants, on the one hand, and to cut the money that is available. The Government knows applicants have the right for up to 12 months to take up the grant so the backlog is not 12 months period after the deadline.

Mr Roberts: There has never been any question of extending the period during which applications could be made beyond March 31 next year. All that has to happen by March 31 is that the application has got to be made. It does not necessarily have to be processed or approved or paid for.

We have had enormous success with this policy in the enormous number of applications coming forward. It is as successful as our current house sales policy.

Mr Peter Hubbard-Atiles (Bridgend, C): In November 1982 one of the largest housing authorities in Wales was urged by certain of its members to redeploy existing staff or take on additional staff in order to take maximum advantage of the special short-term improvement scheme. If that advice had been accepted, many of its 1,000 current applications would have been processed.

Mr Roberts: He is right. We have made special arrangements to meet the special costs this year and of course the sky was the limit last year. The Government has been made available to local authorities.

Mr Gerald Howell (Ceredigion and Pembroke North, Lab): Will he give an assurance that the Government has no plans to abandon the home improvement scheme in 1984-85?

# Four projects to create 300 jobs

Wales' new inward investment organisation, WINvest, was today announcing four new projects for Cardiff and Newport, which promised 300 new jobs, Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, stated during Commons questions. He said he had discussed several of these projects during his recent tour of the United States.

During the first 8 months of its operations, WINvest had handled 161 company visits to Wales. He said later that allocations to Welsh Development Agency factories this year were well up on last year's all-time record figure.

**STOP PRESS.**

**GULF AIR ARE ADDING SPECIAL HOLIDAY FLIGHTS TO THEIR SCHEDULE ON DECEMBER 14 AND DECEMBER 21. SO NOW WE HAVE PLENTY OF SPACE AVAILABLE. GET BACK TO THE GULF IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAY. BOOK NOW.**

**الخطوط الخليجية**

**GULF AIR**

**Spread your wings**



مكتبة من الأصل



# France's extreme right delighted by surge in Brittany by-election

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The extreme right-wing National Front marked up the most striking result in the 15 national and local government by-elections on Sunday, obtaining 13 per cent of the vote in the parliamentary by-election in the second constituency of the Morbihan in Brittany.

Otherwise, the by-elections showed overall a continuation of the shift away from the left to the right, but with nevertheless some success for the left, with the Communists increasing their share of the vote in three cantonal by-elections and the Socialists increasing theirs in one.

The National Front's high score in the Morbihan, obtained by its own president, M Jean-Marie Le Pen, was unexpected, particularly in a predominantly country area where there are virtually no immigrants. It was the National Front's best result since the 17 per cent it won in the Dreux municipal by-election last September.



Power change in Venezuela

Dr Jaime Lusinchi, aged 59, who was formally proclaimed President-elect of Venezuela yesterday after the Supreme Electoral Council confirmed Democratic Action's landslide victory over the ruling Christian Democrats in elections on December 4.

## Bush tells El Salvador to stop death squads

From Alan Tomlinson, Tegucigalpa

Vice-President George Bush has informed the Government of El Salvador that aid to the country may not continue unless there is an end to killings by right-wing death squads.

He described the killings as the "murderous violence of reactionary minorities" and said El Salvador would find it difficult to get the aid it deserved unless the death squads were stopped.

## 3 accused of island plot

Perth (AFP) - A court here was told yesterday of an alleged plan for a commando-style raid to overthrow the Government of the Comoro Islands, off the East African coast.

The court heard that a former ruler of the Comoro Islands was seeking to be reinstated and the scheme was for Mr Pilgrim to recruit men to overthrow the Government.



African quartet: President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya (left) celebrating yesterday his country's 20 years of independence with some of the invited heads of state - King Moshoeshoe of Lesotho, President Kannda of Zambia and President Said Barre of Somalia. The occasion was marked by the pardoning of 7,000 petty criminals and assurances to Uganda and Tanzania that Kenya would never tolerate dissident groups from those nations on its soil.

## Angola 'to step up use of Cubans'

By Richard Dowden

Cuban and Soviet involvement in southern Africa may soon be stepped up and Cuban troops used in direct combat against the Unita guerrillas and the South Africans supporting them, according to an Angolan official.

Mr Arsan Humbaraci, an Angolan Government adviser, told a press conference in London yesterday that the Angolans would soon ask for more Cuban troops and that, in the wake of the US invasion of Grenada, Cuba would be willing to supply them.

Until now, the Cuban forces in his country, estimated by US sources to number 20,000, have been held back from direct front-line combat.

It is understood the Russians have supplied new MiGs, Sam missiles and armour to Angola, and that France has sold Angola Gazelle helicopter gunships. The Soviet Union, Mr Humbaraci hinted, would be delighted with an Angolan decision to raise the stakes for the Americans in Southern Africa.

"Because of South African involvement in this zone, the war may take on new dimensions and the battle here will involve Cuban and perhaps Soviet troops. Cuban troops will be directly involved in the fighting."

## American prisons in crisis

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

America's prisons are in crisis. The tougher sentencing of recent years - a response to public demand for sterner treatment of criminals - has filled many jails to overflowing.

Prison governors are concerned that overcrowding is stoking up tensions which could erupt into rioting. One talks of his prison as a time bomb. Attica in New York state, for example, has 2,100 men in its cells - 300 more than the limit set after the 1971 riots in which 43 prisoners and guards died.

The American prison population has doubled in 10 years to 432,000. In some jails, the overcrowded cells can take no more and men are living in tents, basements, gymnasiums and corridors.

In New York city, several hundred prisoners have been released on a judge's orders to relieve pressure on jails. Mr Edward Koch, the outspoken mayor, then accused judges of not working hard enough.

The judges replied that Mr Koch should not push his responsibilities on to the judiciary, and his administration should build more cells. About 12 serious offenders, including five accused of murder and two of rape, somehow got on to the release list in New York. Officials noticed in time - but one man was arrested and charged with rape two days after he was freed.

## Somalia to resettle refugees

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Somalia, with the world's highest proportion of refugees to its population, plans to move some of them from overcrowded camps to more permanent settlement where they can become self-supporting.

The problem began in 1978, when hundreds of thousands of ethnic Somalis fled from the semi-desert Ogaden region of Ethiopia after an invasion by Somali troops had been repelled.

The number of refugees was put at well over a million - against a normal population for the country of about four million. Now UN officials estimate that there are about 700,000 refugees in 35 camps in different parts of Somalia.

The Deputy UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr Richard Smyser, recently toured many of the camps. A UN spokesman said there had been a marked improvement. Most camps have adequate water supplies, health and nutrition standards were better and morale among the refugees had improved.

However, the enmity between Somalia and Ethiopia, which reached a peak in 1978, makes it virtually impossible for the countries to devise any plan for the refugees to return to the Ogaden.

## Pilots 'too emotional' after air crashes

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain's airline pilots were yesterday accused by the Government of reacting emotionally to the two recent air disasters.

Señor Enrique Barón, the Transport and Tourist Minister, made the accusation when defending safety equipment at Spanish airports.

Speaking at a specially summoned press conference at which senior tourism officials were also present, the minister emphasized the need for strict observance of travel safety regulations to avoid increasing Spain's accident toll.

Linking the pilots with train drivers and motorists, Señor Barón said: "It is true in Spain we can improve respect for systems of safety."

The one-year-old Socialist Government, which has appointed new directors at half the country's airports, was, Señor Barón said, making a great effort to improve supervision of all transport.

Señor Barón virtually rejected all the criticism voiced by Spanish pilots after the head-on collision last week between two Spanish jets in dense fog at Madrid which killed 93 people. Only 10 days before that disaster, a South American jumbo crashed coming in to land at Madrid, with the loss of 181 lives.

The Minister said it was at the discretion of the airlines whether planes should fly in near minimal weather conditions.

The director-general of tourism said at the meeting that no reroutings of tourist groups had occurred after the recent disasters, but there had been individual cancellations.

No adverse comments on Madrid's Barajas airport had come from British pilots, the Transport Minister said. Gatwick was using the same systems, he said.

Answering the pilots' charge that if Barajas had ground radar, the head-on collision could have been avoided, Señor Barón said a similar accident had occurred in Chicago two years ago where the airport had such a system.

With only a few days of fog a year at Madrid, the problem was really how best to select safety priorities. Señor Pedro Tena, the director-general of civil aviation, emphasized. He suggested that doubling existing radar flight control equipment might be preferable.

**Mentathlete**

Home computers. Do they send your brain to sleep - or keep your mind on its toes? At Sinclair, we're in no doubt. To us, a home computer is a mental gym, as important an aid to mental fitness as a set of weights to a body-builder.

Provided, of course, it offers a whole battery of genuine mental challenges.

The Spectrum does just that. Its education programs turn boring chores into absorbing contests - not learning to spell 'acquiescent', but rescuing a princess from a sorcerer in colour, sound, and movement!

The arcade games would test an all-night arcade freak - they're very fast, very complex, very stimulating.

And the mind-stretchers are truly fiendish. Adventure games that very few people in the world have cracked. Chess to grand master standards. Flight simulation with a cockpit full of instruments operating independently. Genuine 3D computer design.

No other home computer in the world can match the Spectrum challenge - because no other computer has so much software of such outstanding quality to run.

For the Mentathletes of today and tomorrow, the Sinclair Spectrum is gym, apparatus and training schedule, in one neat package. And you can buy one for under £100.

**sinclair**



# Portugal offers to act as go-between in Falklands negotiations

From Douglas Tweedale, Buenos Aires

Portugal has offered to transmit Argentina's views on the Falkland Islands dispute to the British Government, Senhor Mario Soares, the Prime Minister, revealed in Buenos Aires.

It was the second West European nation to offer to intercede with Britain in search for a negotiated solution to the Falklands problem; France made a similar proposal on Sunday. Signor Bettino Craxi, the Italian Prime Minister, who carried Mrs Thatcher's Note congratulating the new Argentine Government, has also offered to carry any return messages.

Senhor Soares made his offer during a private meeting with President Raúl Alfonsín two days after the new Argentine leader took office and put an end to the military Government responsible for last year's war in the South Atlantic.

"We are in a position to transmit Argentina's opinions to the British Government and to point out the importance of this change to democracy," Senhor Soares told reporters after meeting Señor Alfonsín.

The Prime Minister added that the inauguration of President Alfonsín was "well viewed" in West Europe and would "facilitate a dialogue within the framework of the United Nations about the problem of the Malvinas (Falklands) Islands."

The French Prime Minister, M Pierre Mauroy, hinted on Sunday that Paris might be ready to shift its position on the Falklands as part of its support for Argentina's new democratic Government.

M Mauroy told a press conference: "France never voted against Argentina in the United Nations, it only abstained, and Alfonsín was not President when that occurred." He also promised that France would open a dialogue with the British to bring about negotiations soon with Argentina in the Falklands.

President Alfonsín's Government was expected to begin announcing its first measures after being inaugurated formally on Saturday. Officials at the Economics Ministry said they would impose indirect price controls on Argentine businesses to halt the soaring inflation rate.

A thorough reform of the armed forces, promised by Señor Alfonsín during his campaign, is also expected to be among the first measures taken. Newspapers on Sunday reported that the Government had chosen General Mario Fernández Torres as head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, a move which would drive many high-ranking generals into retirement.

Government officials have not confirmed these reports and said the names of military appointees would be released this week.

The Government's purge is expected to be particularly severe in the Army because it has not weeded out officers responsible for Argentina's defeat in the Falklands war. President Alfonsín has also blamed senior military officers for human rights abuses and the disappearance of up to 30,000 people in a period of repression which began as a fight against left-wing guerrillas.

# Tensions in Israel, Jordan and Lebanon



Face from the past: Mr Menachem Begin, the former Israeli Prime Minister, arriving at his new flat in the Beit Hakarem quarter of Jerusalem. He has disappeared into voluntary seclusion as a result of deep depression on September 6.

# Bethlehem security fears grow Britons held at gunpoint in Beirut

Fears are mounting about security during Christmas Eve celebration in the Israeli-occupied town of Bethlehem after a new campaign of violence against Arab and Christian targets.

The televised celebrations in Bethlehem's Manger Square have long been regarded as a prestige target for both Palestinian and Jewish terrorist groups. Strict security precautions are already in force.

The latest attacks took place yesterday in the Palestinian village of Hussan, only two miles from Bethlehem, where three Israeli Army issue grenades - each professionally booby-trapped with a hair trigger mechanism - were placed by Arab targets.

One exploded when a woman opened the front door of her house while the other two were defused by the security forces.

The grenades were similar to four planted last Friday at Christian institutions close to Jerusalem's Mount Zion and a fifth at a mosque at Beit Safa, another village close to Bethlehem. All were booby-trapped.

Another army issue grenade exploded on Friday night in the main shopping street in the annexed Arab sector of Jerusalem and six Arab-owned cars were vandalized in the village of Abu Tor on Jerusalem's outskirts.

Israeli security forces believe that a right-wing Jewish terrorist group is responsible for the attacks, which appear to be part of a campaign begun two weeks ago.

The campaign had become noticeably more violent in the wake of last week's Jerusalem bus bomb attack in which five Jews were killed, including three schoolgirls.

One police officer said that the professionalism of the grenade attacks indicated the possibility that the perpetrators had had army training.

Extra security measures have been instituted to try to prevent more attacks at a time of high tension between Jews and Arabs in the Holy City.

TEL AVIV: Israeli authorities have demolished the homes of three alleged guerrillas accused of killing a Jewish seminary student in the West Bank town of Hebron (Reuters reports).

The authorities also sealed off four other homes of alleged terrorists in Hebron and Ramallah, military officials said.

# Parents of crippled baby win appeal

The United States Supreme Court refused yesterday to order surgeons to operate on Baby Jane Doe, the nine-week-old infant with multiple birth defects whose case has triggered a nationwide controversy (Trevor Fishlock writes).

Baby Jane, whose real name is a secret, was born with an abnormally small head and brain, water on the brain and spinal bifida, an exposed spine.

Her parents were told that without surgery she would be unlikely to live beyond two. Surgery would give her a chance of living to 20, but she would be in pain, retarded, paralyzed and epileptic.

The decision against surgery, but a right-to-life group persuaded a court to order surgery and appoint a lawyer as the baby's guardian. This order was subsequently overturned in an appeal court and yesterday the Supreme Court in Washington supported the appeal court's action.

# Lisbon's new army chief

Lisbon-Portugal's Cabinet has chosen General Jorge da Costa Salazar Braga to succeed General Garcia dos Santos as Army Chief of Staff (Martha de Cal writes).

General Salazar Braga aged 58, served in Angola and Guinea Bissau and has also been a professor in the Institute for Advanced Military Studies he has no known political affiliations.

# Peru guerrillas 'aid drug trade'

Lima, (AP) - The Peru Government says it has proof that intentional cocaine traffickers and Maoist guerrillas are working together in Peru's insurgency zone.

An extraordinary session of the senate was held in a special report that the guerrillas provide protection to illegal cocaine traffickers in return for money, arms and clothes.

# Scalp reform

Peking (Reuters) - Chinese Buddhist monks and nuns are being urged to scrap a 1,000-year-old initiation rite of burning bare patches on the scalp because it is bad for their health. The Buddhist association's national council, meeting in Peking, will abolish the custom if provincial Buddhist associations agree.

# Barents talks

Moscow (Reuters)-Norway and the Soviet Union opened talks intended to break a 12-year deadlock on rights to the Barents Sea. At stake are the rights to 60,000 square miles of Arctic continental shelf seabed believed to hold extensive oil deposits.

# Buried protest

Brisbane (Reuters) - Ten people protesting at the building of a road in a rain forest in Cape Tribulation Park, Queensland, were arrested after they had buried themselves in front of a bulldozer. Other protesters chained and roped themselves to branches.

# Fine gesture

Bonn-West German police in all states except Lower Saxony and West Berlin will show a spirit of goodwill to traffic offenders during the Christmas period by delaying postage of notices of fines. This is to avoid "disturbance of the family feast days".

# Students shot

Peshawar (AFP) - Ten students were injured, one seriously, when police opened fire here on students from a commercial college, demonstrating for increased grants and a return to democracy in Pakistan.

# Silent chimes

Copenhagen, (AP) - The city's town hall clock stood still yesterday when 10 anti-nuclear demonstrators stopped the noon chimes from ringing for the first time since they were installed in 1903.

# Nota bene

Rome (AP) - The Bank of Italy announced yesterday it will change all Italian banknotes at the beginning of the New Year. The new bills will be more sensitive to electronic machines used to detect fakes.

# Mystery of businessman's death Bodies, denials and hints of spying

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris

French police are still keeping an open mind about the death of Mr Niall Campbell, the ICI employee, who was apprehended in Paris on December 1. Further tests on the body were carried out yesterday in Brest.

The initial post-mortem examination showed that he had drowned, but police would like to know if he was given any drugs or was hit before he fell or was pushed into the sea. There is a wound on his forehead, but it is not clear whether he received it before or after he drowned.

Mr Campbell, aged 42, was married with two children and worked as an assistant planning manager for ICI's fibres division in Harrogate. He came to Paris for a routine business visit on November 30 and booked into his usual hotel, the Vernet, in the 8th arrondissement.

The next day, December 1, he brought his suitcase down to the lobby, saying he was planning to leave that evening. After attending meetings at ICI's Paris offices in the morning, he lunched with colleagues, before returning to the hotel to leave his briefcase, containing his passport, return air ticket and some money, saying he was never seen alive again.

On December 2, the French Maritime Police picked up a body which had been washed up on to the rocks near Brest, not far from the French nuclear submarine base on the Ile Longue. The post-mortem showed the man had died at about midnight on December 1, but he was not identified until last Saturday, more than a week later.

Neither Mr Campbell's wife nor ICI know why he should suddenly have gone to Brest. There have been rumours, however, that he was approached by the British Secret Service shortly before leaving for Paris.

The Foreign Office has denied any connexion between Mr Campbell and the intelligence services, as it would have to even if true.



Mr Campbell: What was he doing near Brest?

The rumours were fed by the disappearance from Paris of a second British businessman, Mr Robert Graham, a newly-married accountant, aged 27, with the London-based Transport Development Group.

French police have stepped up their search for Mr Graham, but insist there is no evidence to suggest any link between the cases.

More excitement was generated by reports that a headless, armless body had been found washed up on the rocks near where Mr Campbell's body had been found. It now appears that no such body has been found in the past fortnight.

# Kohl tries to woo Andropov

Bonn (Reuters) - Dr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, yesterday urged Moscow to preserve top-level contacts with the West and invited President Andropov to visit Bonn.

Addressing a leadership meeting of his Christian Democratic Party (CDU), he also said he would welcome a summit between President Andropov and President Reagan next year.

The West, he said, would keep all doors open for agreement on limiting intermediate and medium-range nuclear missiles, reducing conventional forces and banning all chemical weapons from Europe.

"We will also use every chance of cooperation in other areas - political, economic, cultural and humanitarian," Dr Kohl said. "For this reason, I expressly repeat my invitation to General-Secretary Andropov."

During his Moscow visit last July, Chancellor Kohl invited Mr Andropov to come to Bonn. The invitation was accepted but no date has yet been discussed.

Dr Kohl, who has been eager to maintain contacts with Moscow despite East-West frictions over deployment of new US nuclear arms in Europe, said his Foreign Minister, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, would meet early next year.

Chancellor Kohl's address, was described by diplomats here as highly conciliatory.

Later he told a press reception in West Berlin that Bonn would consider steps to improve relations with Poland and East Germany. Relations with East Germany, he said, were particularly important.

# We are at the edge, says Husain

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

King Husain of Jordan in an American television interview described conditions in the Middle East area as very dangerous.

"We are all at the edge of a precipice and the (Middle East) area is threatened," he said in a satellite interview from Jordan on Sunday.

Asked to what extent the Soviet presence in Syria posed a threat to Jordan and Middle East peace, the king replied: "The danger in the area is of polarization."

He reiterated that certain conditions would have to be met and he would have to have Palestinian participation and support before he could enter into any negotiations with Israel on a Middle East settlement.

King Husain said that Israel's illegal settlement activities on the occupied West Bank were continuing to create obstacles.

Questioned about the fighting with the Palestine Liberation Organization the King said: "We will continue to do business with a PLO which represents the people of Palestine and their hopes and aspirations." He added that any PLO organization that was subservient to the will or policies of any Arab state or any force in the world "is certainly one that we would not recognize."

King Husain said that the United States has a contribution to make to the establishment of a just and durable peace in the Middle East.

It certainly could do that as a superpower interested in peace in the area. "But it cannot do it if it has embarked upon a course that would make it an ally of Israel - in other words, an ally of a belligerent in the tragedy in which we all live."

# New EEC spirit on budget

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

The European Parliament was last night moving towards acceptance of the Community's 1984 budget, despite the failure of the Athens summit last week. But a question mark still hangs over the future of the agreed British rebate of £457m, which the Government wants paid by the end of March.

At the previous reading of the budget in the Parliament in October, members of most parties threatened to block it unless there was real progress in Athens. They also blocked all the money for Britain in the budget and tried to put a freeze on five per cent of all agricultural spending.

But from the opening speeches in last night's debate, it was clear that a new spirit of compromise is sweeping through the Parliament. The threat of Community bankruptcy appeared to have united the strong farming lobbies.

Mme Christiane Scrivener, the French liberal MEP, who is rapporteur for the budget, told the Assembly last night that the Athens failure required members to show they could override national selfishness and find constructive solutions. The important thing, she said, was for Parliament to behave responsibly to help the Community out of its present crisis.

As far as the British and West German rebates are concerned, she was less obviously seeking conciliation.



Traffic offence: A runaway hippopotamus from a West German circus attacks a police car before being hustled into a horse van at Kassel.

# Islamic scholars brand Syria as anti-Muslim

Islamabad (Reuters) - An international conference of Islamic scholars said yesterday that Muslims were being persecuted in Syria, Uganda and Ethiopia.

A communique issued at the end of the conference said the scholars expressed horror over the systematic persecution of Muslims in Syria on "a scale and in a brutal manner that has few parallels in history."

# Riot police on stand-by in Gdansk and Warsaw

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Poland's leaders have been visiting some of the country's main industrial troublespots on the Baltic coast in an effort to dissuade workers from following the siren call of the Solidarity underground for demonstrations and protest marches this week.

In case gentle persuasion fails columns of motorized Riot Police (Zomo) have been moving into place in both Gdansk and Warsaw.

There are two possible booby traps the Government may have to cope with this week. The first comes today, the second anniversary of the declaration of martial law by General Jaruzelski.

Although Solidarity has not called for unrest today, the anniversary is sure to bring some trouble. A number of factory cells have been discussing the possibility of small-scale wreath-laying ceremonies and chanting.

But Friday, the thirteenth anniversary of the shooting of

# Base blockade broken

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn

Riot police used water cannon against anti-nuclear demonstrators who blockaded an American military depot in Frankfurt yesterday.

About 150 demonstrators tried to prevent a West German Army lorry from entering the depot, in the Hausen district, which the peace movement claims is used to assemble parts for Pershing 2 missiles.

Up to 40 people were detained, 30 of them for allegedly insulting the police by swearing and spitting at them.

In Mulfingen, near Stuttgart, where West Germany's first Pershing 2 missiles are believed to be deployed, 100 demonstrators tried to blockade a US Army base. However, police carried them off the road, detaining 15 of them.

# HAPPILY, THE BUCHANAN BLEND IS STARTING TO SHOW ITS AGE.



a smooth marriage between the consistency of grain whiskies and the character of malt whiskies. And its success was rapid and vast. The Buchanan Blend became a favoured drink everywhere from Music Halls to noble households and founded a world-wide export market.

While James Buchanan went on to become a Peer, a philanthropist and the owner of two Derby winners.

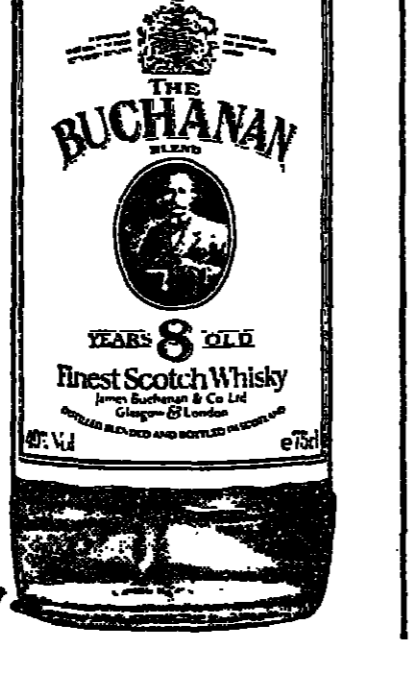
**THE BUCHANAN BLEND TODAY**

The Buchanan Blend may not be the easiest brand to find in the shops. But it rewards the determined seeker.

As already mentioned, the youngest whisky in the Blend is a full 8 years old.

Which is rare even among the good quality brands.

And another distinctive difference is the goodly measure of matured malt whisky that can be tasted in every dram of The Buchanan Blend.



A little extra maturity makes remarkable differences to whisky. That's why the minimum of 3 years maturing necessary to become a "Scotch Whisky" is not enough for the quality brands.

It is exactly this pursuit of excellence which ensures that the youngest whisky in The Buchanan Blend is a full 8 years old - a fact now proudly displayed on the bottle.

Of course, you can find even older whiskies, but generally at much higher prices.

It is simply The Buchanan Blend's lot to be somewhat superior among the good quality brands.

ANOTHER AGE

Apart from the new label, The Buchanan Blend has long shown its age in a quite different sense: it is one of the earliest of the great whisky names still enduring.

Back in the 1880s, whisky was unpopular outside Scotland.

It varied widely in quality and strength and many attempts were being made to balance the drink by blending.

One of the first men to succeed with such a blend was James Buchanan, once a £10-a-year Glasgow shipping clerk. His new "Buchanan Blend" was

كندا من الأصل

Moscow as C of fuel

Swoop on sacred date

Ozal Cabinet d



# Moscow admits mishaps as cosmonauts tell of fuel leak on Salyut 7

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Soviet space officials have stated publicly for the first time that the orbiting space station Salyut 7 suffered a fuel leak recently and that a replacement cosmonaut crew had a narrow escape when their rocket launcher exploded. Both mishaps were earlier reported in the West but denied in Moscow.

At a Moscow press conference, Commander Vladimir Lyakhov, who spent 149 days on board Salyut 7 with engineer Aleksandr Aleksandrov, confirmed that they should have been replaced on 26 September, but there had been an accident on the launchpad.

The two replacement cosmonauts had been catapulted to safety, but their Soyuz mission was abandoned. "We were told immediately," Lyakhov said, "and cut flight lasted longer than expected. Our programme of work was expanded."

Lyakhov and Aleksandrov finally returned to Earth on 23 November, using the same Soyuz T9 craft which had brought them to the space station. Officials could not confirm that the return had been hazardous. Lyakhov said they had not been in danger and could have returned at any time.

Vladimir Shtalov, the head of cosmonaut training, admitted there had been problems on Salyut 7 after a fuel leak in a

sub-system used for manoeuvring the giant 47-ton space complex. He said the sub-system had been closed down and the station had continued to function normally.



Commander Lyakhov: "We were not in danger."

American reports in November said Salyut 7 had begun to wallow badly after a propellant fuel leak, and that the two cosmonauts on board might have to be rescued.

Both Lyakhov and Aleksandrov described what could have turned into a serious crisis in almost laconic terms, minimizing the hazards and emphasizing the scientific experiments carried out during the mission.

Aleksandrov described the "emotionally charged" experi-

ence of going outside the space station to install extra solar batteries supplied by the unmanned cargo craft Cosmos 1443 and Progress 18. He said knowing that only a thin space suit separated one from space was an extraordinary sensation. The Earth below was dark, "as in a shadow play", and small objects dropped by the cosmonauts looked like stars.

Mr Shtalov, striking a more prosaic note, said the solar batteries were for energy supplies used in experiments and had no connexion with the fuel leak.

He said Salyut 7 was in good condition, and further crews would visit it next year, including an international crew containing Indian cosmonauts now being trained in Russia.

Officials told the press conference that in addition to the space station programme the Soviet Union was carrying out research into an American-style reusable shuttle craft but there were complications.

The two cosmonauts appeared to be fit and well, and said they had adapted quickly from weightlessness to Earth after initial difficulties in walking. Soviet scientists have expressed concern about the effects of prolonged weightlessness on the physical and psychological well being of the cosmonauts.

Concluding his series from Ottawa on the Canadian political scene, Ivan Barnes, Foreign News Editor, reports on the leadership of the two main federal parties.



Part 2

The Progressive Conservative Party (PC), the main opposition in Canada, is riding high. It holds a big lead in opinion polls over the governing Liberal Party and scents victory in the general election which must be held within 15 months.

Fundamental to its high morale is the new, young leader. Six months ago Mr Brian Mulroney, a 44-year-old businessman from Quebec, won the leadership. He entered the House of Commons in September with victory in a by-election in Nova Scotia, his first elective office.

One reason, above all others, probably led the Tories to choose Mr Mulroney: they saw him as a winner. They were shaking off the memory of Mr Joe Clark's muffed opportunity in 1979-80, when he briefly led the PC in a minority government.

Without doubt, the Tories have their best opportunity in decades to effect a fundamental change in Canadian politics. The prize for them is their return to the role of a truly national party, a party of government, not permanent opposition.

Ms Janis Johnson, the national director, brims with confidence. "For the first time

## Canadian Tories rejuvenated by scent of victory

# Youthful image peps up the political contest



Toryism's new faces: Brian Mulroney and his wife Mila wearing the winning smiles that boosted party morale.

in ages", she said, "the party is positive, confident and disciplined."

The Liberals have allowed this, in her opinion, by their movement leftwards. "People



John Turner: Young hope for the worried Liberals.

Many Liberals now see their man, Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Prime Minister, as a loser. They want a young standard-bearer to match, and outmatch, Mr Mulroney. One man is always mentioned in any list of replacements, should Mr Trudeau quit. Mr John Turner is named by Liberals as the probable front-runner whether they support the idea of his leadership or not, and despite the fact that he has been out of parliamentary politics for nearly eight years.

There is considerable antipathy between the two Liberals. Mr Turner may have been crown prince for more than a decade, but there is no leader's blessing for this recognized heir, as has generally been the case for Liberals in the past.

Unless the looming Tory threat and its own desperate position cause Liberal minds to concentrate wonderfully, Mr Turner faces a contest, rather

than a walkover, if Mr Trudeau goes. Many hats could be in the ring.

Mr Turner, however, has a strong following. He has maintained a network of contacts in the party since he left government. At 54, he is 10 years younger than Mr Trudeau. He is an "Anglo" and the Liberal tradition that the two main language groups take turns as leader has not broken yet.

Most important is whether Liberals believe Mr Turner is their winner. If they do, the job could be his. Meanwhile, the beleaguered party awaits Mr Trudeau's decision and banks on the Tories making mistakes. That has certainly been the Tory way. Their last two administrations have shown a remarkable tendency for self-immolation. Mr Mulroney, sensibly, is keeping quiet on policy matters. Liberals are confident he will cause great fissures in his party once he is forced to take a stand.

It is the Grits (as the Liberals are commonly known) who win elections, who know how to run politics: Tories splinter, argue in public, ruin their chances.

At this stage, it seems that only a miracle can save the Liberals - with or without Mr Trudeau. The Tories know, however, that it would not be prudent to write off the party which has governed Canada for about 50 of the last 62 years, or the man who is the West's senior statesman.

Concluded

## Prisoners of conscience



### Uruguay: Ismael Sena

By Caroline Moorehead

A 45-year-old telephone engineer, father of eight-year-old twins, is one of a growing number of Uruguayan political prisoners whose physical state is causing anxiety.

Ismael Sena, detained since 1975 and charged with "subversive association", has an untreated stomach ulcer. He shares a cell 6ft by 9ft with another prisoner and can leave it for only 45 minutes of exercise each day.

Senior Sena was a delegate for his union and worked in his home town of Montevideo when he and his wife, Alicia, were arrested in October, 1975.

Alicia was released in 1978, but her husband spent six months in detention blindfolded - and was, it is believed, repeatedly tortured - before being moved to a military barracks and then to Libertad prison, known for its harsh treatment and inadequate medical care.

Although no evidence was produced at his trial that he had used or advocated violence, Senior Sena was sentenced by a military court to nine years' detention. Despite petitions and the state of his health there is no suggestion of a reprieve.



Ismael Sena: Spent six months blindfolded.

## Ershad's partial clemency

From Michael Hamlyn Dhaka

The new President of Bangladesh started his first full day in office by declaring that he was prepared to talk to any of the politicians about his timetable for restoring democracy.

Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad, the chief martial law administrator, who made himself President on Sunday began his new role by releasing four women political leaders who have been held under house arrest.

They were Begum Khalida Zia, widow of former President Ziaur Rahman; Shaikh Hasina Wazed, daughter of the late Prime Minister, Shaikh Mujibur Rahman; Mrs Motia Chowdhury and Mrs Ivy Rahman, both leaders of the Awami league.

Four male political leaders, however, who were arrested with them after the disturbances on November 28 remain in jail.

President Ershad's benevolence towards the politicians is very much linked to how they react to his offer of talks. He is plainly prepared to be flexible over the timing of presidential and parliamentary elections.

The politicians are keen to have parliamentary elections before presidential elections, so as to build themselves a power base in the country before tackling General Ershad in a presidential contest.

But on one of their demands he was quite inflexible: he will not withdraw martial law until after the elections have been held. "Some one has to run this country," he said. He is still not ready to lift the restrictions clamped down on political activity after the November 28 demonstrations.

Surrounded by a throng of journalists under the huge chandeliers of the Bangabhaban, the presidential palace, which used to be the home of the governors of East Bengal, he added: "I asked the politicians to explain what happened that day. But they couldn't."

The demonstration which started out quite mildly went out of hand as a crowd attempted to force its way into the government secretariat.

## Swoop on ANC as sacred date looms

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Ten people were arrested in a police swoop on African National Congress (ANC) suspects believed to be involved in a plot to launch a terror campaign to coincide with South Africa's Day of the Vow on Friday, the most sacred date in the Afrikaner calendar.

It commemorates the victory in 1838 of the Voortrekkers over the armies of the Zulu king, Dingaan, at the so-called Battle of Blood River. But it is also the anniversary of the formation of the ANC's military arm, Umkonto We Sizwe (Spear of the Nation).

A police spokesman in Pretoria said yesterday that further arrests were possible. General Johan Coetzee, Commissioner of Police, confirmed that large arms caches had been discovered after a shoot-out in the coloured township of Eldorado Park, near Johannesburg, last week.

One of the people arrested was a prominent ANC member, General Coetzee.

The shoot-out, he said, came during police investigations into an attempt in October to kill Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister.

## Ozal Cabinet delayed

From Rasit Gardilek, Ankara

Mr Turgut Ozal, Turkey conservative Prime Minister-designate, submitted the list of his Government to President Kenan Evren yesterday, only to be told that its scrutiny would take at least a day.

Mr Ozal chairman of the Motherland Party, which secured a safe majority in the 400-seat Parliament in last month's elections avoided giving any reason for the unaccustomed

delay in approval of the Cabinet list, he merely told reporters that the list would "probably" be made public today, hinting at "surprise appointments".

He declined to comment on speculation that the delay might be caused by the inclusion in the list of names outside Parliament, or to be more precise, those who were vetted earlier by the military regime.

The first £70 a year of interest from a National Savings Ordinary Account is free of all UK Income Tax and Investment Income Surcharge. For example, if you deposit £1,167 before the end of December 1983 and keep it in for the whole of 1984, you will receive the full tax-free benefit of £70. Husbands and wives are each entitled to this amount of tax exemption.

# EARN £70 TAX-FREE INTEREST

### GUARANTEED RETURN

The Ordinary Account offers a guaranteed return of 6% p.a. on balances maintained at £500 or more for the whole of 1984. Whatever happens to other interest rates in 1984, this one will not change.

### WHAT TO DO

- Open or top-up your account so that you have a balance of £500 or more by 31 December 1983
- Keep a balance of at least £500 from 31 December 1983 to 1 January 1985 - and you will get a guaranteed rate of 6% p.a. Additional deposits will also earn the 6% rate for each whole month of 1984 the money is earning interest. (Other balances will earn 3% p.a.)

### READY ACCESS

We offer a guaranteed return and ready access to your money. You may draw from your account whenever you want - to earn the 6% all we ask is that you keep at least £500 invested for the whole of 1984.

### ACT BY 31 DECEMBER

To qualify for this attractive 1984 opportunity, invest before the end of December 1983. You can open a National Savings Ordinary Account by sending the coupon, which must arrive by 31 December, with your cheque made payable to "National Savings" and crossed "A/C Payee," to:- National Savings Bank, Glasgow, G58 2BR. Or you can if you prefer, make your deposit at the post office. In this case, if you pay by cheque make it out to "The Post Office."

To: National Savings Bank (Dept. T2.), Glasgow G58 2BR  
I wish to open an NSB Ordinary Account

SURNAME: \_\_\_\_\_ MR/MRS/MISS

FORENAMES: \_\_\_\_\_ (in full)

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE MONTH YEAR  
(Essential for children under 7 years)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ (including postcode)

AMOUNT DEPOSITED: \_\_\_\_\_ POUNDS \_\_\_\_\_ PENCE

I declare that the information given by me on this form is correct.

USUAL SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_  
(If child under 7, signature of person opening account)  
(If you hold any other NSB Account(s), please quote account number(s): \_\_\_\_\_)

To: National Savings Bank (Dept. T2.), Glasgow G58 2BR  
I wish to open an NSB Ordinary Account

SURNAME: \_\_\_\_\_ MR/MRS/MISS

FORENAMES: \_\_\_\_\_ (in full)

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE MONTH YEAR  
(Essential for children under 7 years)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ (including postcode)

AMOUNT DEPOSITED: \_\_\_\_\_ POUNDS \_\_\_\_\_ PENCE

I declare that the information given by me on this form is correct.

USUAL SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_  
(If child under 7, signature of person opening account)  
(If you hold any other NSB Account(s), please quote account number(s): \_\_\_\_\_)

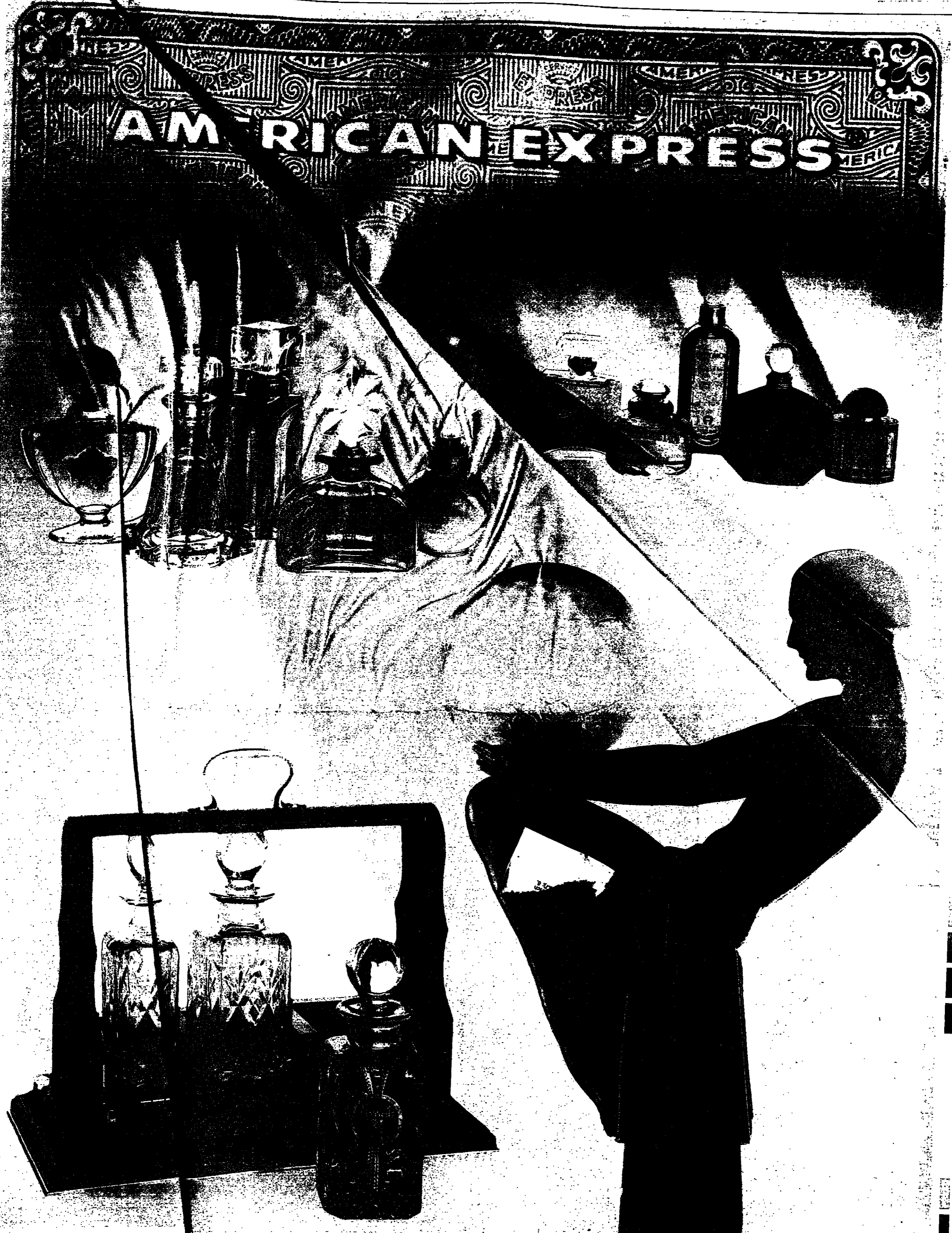
If two members of your household wish to open an account, please use both of these application forms provided. Additional application forms are available from the post office.











quality  
otland  
st will  
o take  
South  
July-  
ing a  
m.

Lord  
world  
would  
ionals  
edict-  
has  
ord's  
could  
in an  
meet-

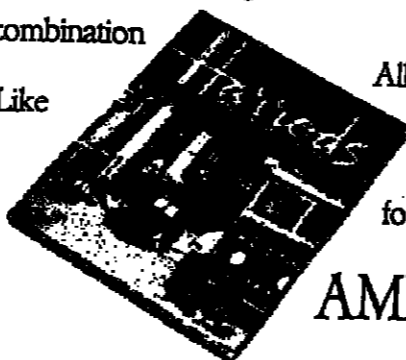
the  
sign  
ord.  
very  
s to  
iore

three  
sent  
ting  
ford  
eck  
fern

as  
as a  
nan  
stol  
has  
his  
ter,  
a  
igs  
val.

# Naturally Harrods. Naturally the American Express Card.

Harrods and the American Express Card are the natural combination this Christmas. And they offer a wealth of fragrant gift ideas for women. Like Chanel No. 5, the classic of all time. 'Ombre Rose' by Charles Brosseau, a romantic new blend of powdery floral notes yet elegant. Or Harrods 81, a new scent created for Harrods by Floris, available in a beautiful presentation of three cut crystal decanters in a handsome taltalus.



You'll find Perfumery and Fragrance on the ground floor. All this and much more appears in the pages of the Harrods Christmas Magazine, available from Harrods and leading newsagents at £1.50, or by post at £2.45. And remember, there's one Card that Harrods always look forward to receiving at Christmas.

The American Express Card. Naturally.  
**AMERICAN EXPRESS at Harrods**

Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7DL  
01-760 1234 A House of Fraser Store



# Sir Oswald and the Jews

moreover... Miles Kington

## The arts & shock horror

Arts Round-Up: Tomorrow's Cultural Headlines Now!

\*\*\*

An enormous furor is building over a portrait of the Queen - commissioned by the Post Office.

The offending picture of Her Majesty appears on every stamp sold by the Post Office over 100,000 counters up and down the country. It shows her as a young girl with a dress almost off the shoulder, wearing a crown at a rather jaunty angle.

"It's an absolute travesty," says art expert Quentin Portillo. "We all know that the Queen is in late middle age, with the dignified wrinkles and laugh-lines that that entails. Yet here she is, portrayed by some satirical upstart at the Post Office as a sort of Sloane Ranger off to the Hunt Ball for a spot of I-don't-know-what. I am absolutely horrified. And they've also missed the name of the country of the stamp, now that I look. Whatever next?"

The Palace has weathered the storm by claiming that they have not seen the offending stamp.

"Actually, we frank our outgoing mail here," said a spokesnob, "and incoming mail is taken out of its envelope before we ever see it. So I haven't the faintest idea what you're talking about. But rest assured, if we had something to say on the subject, we wouldn't say it."

\*\*\*

*Jean 'ondel*, the new smash musical at the Old National, is soon to move to the West End. That's the news from impresario Zinka Rodent, who is merrily minding the transfer of *Jean 'ondel*, the smash hit about the girl from America who toured Europe toiling for Richard Gare-de-Lyon.

\*\*\*

The media wing of CND has objected strenuously to the screening of *Heseline*, a horror movie which shows what would happen if Britain were taken over by a blond superman with staring eyes, according to *Heseline*, nobody's mind would be left unscathed by the experience and most of the population would be left zombies.

"*Heseline* is just a fictional character," says an IBA spokesbore. "He couldn't appear in real life. So nuts to you, ND."

\*\*\*

*Star Seberg*, the smash hit musical on in the West End, is soon to move to the Peter Hall Theatre, says impresario Zinka Rodent. The show tells the story of the 10,000 people who wrote every year to the actress in Paris but never got an answer. The music is by Marvo Hamburger, who wrote Scott Joplin's *The Entertainer*.

\*\*\*

Is *Liked Chinese Music a Fake?* That's the question bothering a lot of people who have read the biography of Harold Holt, well-known classical impresario. The book claims that Holt has been in the pay of the Chinese all along, to infiltrate Chinese music into the Wigmore Hall. But no Chinese music has ever been played there, say the detractors. "True," says author Anthony Grey. "But you've got to remember that Harold Holt was a damned bad Chinese agent."

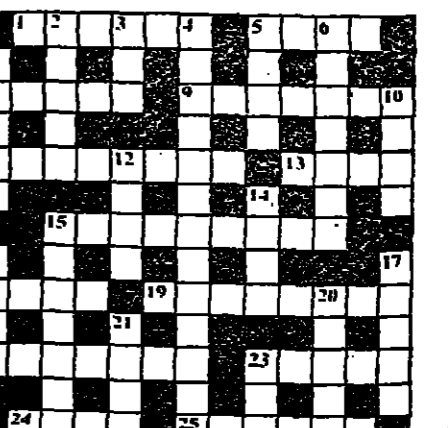
\*\*\*

Bob Fosse's *Transferrin*, the red-hot musical about a chorus line that could not make it on Broadway, is believed to be going on an out-of-town tour prior to its disappearance. "If you say that in print," says impresario Zinka Rodent, "I'll sue *The Times* for every penny it's got."

\*\*\*

That's all for now, folks. More news about the arts later if there ever is any news about the arts.

### CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 222)



- ACROSS
- 1 Advisor (6)
  - 2 Jacks (4)
  - 3 Jeering remark (5)
  - 4 Chuck (7)
  - 5 Elation (8)
  - 6 Summit (4)
  - 7 Tibetan leader (5,4)
  - 8 Conceal (4)
  - 9 Obvious (8)
  - 10 Concretions (7)
  - 11 Passing smell (5)
  - 12 Gloomy (4)
  - 13 Oath supervisor (6)
- DOWN
- 1 Furnish (5)
  - 2 Toddler (3)
  - 3 Remedy (1,3)
  - 4 Sand mound (4)
  - 5 Priest's cap (7)
  - 6 Soak (5)
  - 7 Long stride (4)
  - 8 Look lewdly (4)
  - 9 Pervert (4)
  - 10 Swindler (7)
  - 11 Stylish (4)
  - 12 Muscular (5)
  - 13 Tobacco pipe (5)
  - 14 Later (4)
  - 15 Thai temple (3)

SOLUTION TO No 221

ACROSS: 1 Camaraderie 9 Address 10 Spate 11 Ere 12 Ufot 16 Wisp 17 Oracle 18 Inch 20 Core 21 Bolero 22 Samp 23 Shah 25 Sew 28 Opera 29 Harriet 30 Breadwinner

DOWN: 2 Audio 3 Anew 4 Apse 5 Ease 6 Imagine 7 Manumission 8 Hepplewithe 12 Relief 14 Soh 15 Cajole 19 Conquer 20 Cos 24 Helix 25 Saga 26 Whew 27 Grim

On July 2, 1940, the founder of the British Union of Fascists, Sir Oswald Mosley, sat down before a government committee appointed to advise on his wartime internment and chaired by Norman Birkett (left). The record of the 16 hours of interrogation remained secret until yesterday, when it was released by the Public Record Office. In the following extract, Birkett began by asking about the BUF's attitude to Jews...

**MOSLEY:** We started in 1932 quite eminently without any thought of the Jews, no more thinking of them than of the Irish. I had never come across it as a problem and most of our people had not. During those two years we were violently attacked by certain Jewish interests. Our people were persecuted. Our supporters were blackmailed by Jewish interests. I had never looked into the problem. I had at that time never been to Nazi Germany, but I was forced to regard the problem by the action which they took against us. There are many explanations for their action: they may have seen what was happening in Germany and feared we were going to do the same thing, but making all allowances, the fact is that it was their action against us which brought it to my notice and after one or two warnings I violently attacked them.

**BIRKETT:** On what grounds did you attack them?  
 Their whole influence upon national life, I should have said that I had never looked into the problem in any shape or form. I always actually thought it was the work of cranks and always, although they were so opposed to us, I overlooked it and then I said "why are they so opposed to us?" We want to stop certain things. We want to stop international usury. We want to stop the whole money-lending racket. We do not like price cutting. We do not like the sweating of labour. Gradually it dawned upon me that certain people were very much engaged in these things. I was compelled to look at the Jewish problem by their opposition to us and, having looked at the Jewish problem, I developed what is called anti-semitism.

In what year did you first make your declaration against the Jews?  
 October 1934, the Albert Hall meeting. I think it is about October 1934. It will be recorded in the general papers. I previously quarrelled that summer with Lord Rothermere because he saw this coming and he publicly demanded that I should adopt the Conservative policy and should not develop anti-semitism. We had correspondence which was published at the time on the subject, and my first initial attack on the Jews was October 1934. I had then never been in Germany except once when accompanying Mr Ramsay MacDonald in the spring of 1929, when I heard a funny man called Hitler had started a funny movement. I did not meet him.

You would appreciate that a policy of hostility to the Jews at a time when Jews were being oppressed in Germany



would not be very popular among humane people in this country? I think that anti-semitism here has grown colossally in the last few years. When we began it hardly existed.

Do you think the British Union fomented it?  
 Yes, I think it is partly them, and partly us.

Again, part of the policy of the British Union is to stop all immigration, is it not?  
 Stop all foreigners coming in, but gradually and humanely get rid of all foreigners who are here.

That is to say this country would no longer be, as it was in the old days, an asylum for the oppressed?  
 Oh, certainly.

And those who were here would be expelled?  
 Gradually.

And the Jews would be expelled too?  
 Quite right.

Would they be allowed to take their possessions with them?  
 Yes.

Even the "international racketeers" as they are termed?  
 They would be subject, naturally, to inquiry. They would get it like anybody else.

They would come out of that inquiry very badly, would they not?  
 Some, very badly.

And then they would not be allowed to take anything?  
 But we apply the same rule to our own people.

The attitude of the British Union to the Jewish problem arose, I understand you to say, because they had attacked your meetings and you thereupon gave the problem some consideration?  
 Not only attacked our meetings, but there was also the victimization of our people employed by Jews.

In what sense - in the "sweated" industries?  
 Simply dismissed: a girl known to be a Blackshirt was dismissed.

By that time, 1934, the Jews in this country had seen how their co-religionists were being treated in Germany?  
 Very likely that was so.

And they said, no doubt, "this Fascist Movement in Britain is the same type of movement existing in National Socialist Germany?"  
 Yes.

You did adopt the Italian uniform, did you not?  
 No. The coloured shirt? The uniform

Did you discuss with your movement?  
 No, not in any form.

Was the general political talk party discussion seven or eight years ago. Oh, naturally, discussed the whole question with him since the BUF was founded, certainly I do not think there was any discussion on that point when I first met him, because I think it was before the movement was ever formed.

What is the explanation of the support of the British Union and its policy of other movements, by Mussolini against Abyssinia, by Hitler against Czechoslovakia and elsewhere?  
 No, I do not support their movements.

Would many of your supporters actively assist Germany?  
 No, I do not think so, certainly not. I do not believe among my own supporters there are any at all who would even sympathize with Germany in a struggle against this country, let alone help her. After all, many of my people are in the forces.

Let me put a matter that may at first sight seem a little irrelevant. You need not trouble about it if it is, but there was a period when Lord Rothermere was giving you large sums of money, was there not?  
 Yes, certainly.

Did they appear in your books?  
 This is in confidence. He was one of the three people who insisted on subscribing through me, and Rothermere insisted on subscribing through me. One was a stockbroker, and the other was a Conservative MP whom I prefer not to mention.

Did they go through the books?  
 I think you would find them under the entry of a gift from me. Rothermere stipulated that the transaction should be done through me. When he did it that was the beginning of his relationship with us but whether he later gave large sums I do not know.

Going through the books, without any knowledge of Lord Rothermere's gift, nobody would be able to discover from the books that Lord Rothermere had been a contributor.  
 No, certainly not.

Why?  
 For reasons, I gathered, which I subsequently found to be true, that his advertisers threatened to boycott him, and that was why the *Daily Mail* stopped backing us, and the Jewish advertisers, Lyons and those sort of people. He was frightened out of his wits, most of these businessmen were. For instance, Lord Nuffield, as was common knowledge in the early days of our party, gave us large sums of money, but he went so far as to publish in the *Jewish Chronicle* that he was not supporting us because his cars would have been the subject of a boycott. I do not say that Nuffield supported us afterwards, but these men were at colossal pains to hide their connexion with the movement; in fact it was a joke among our people to conceal their connexion.

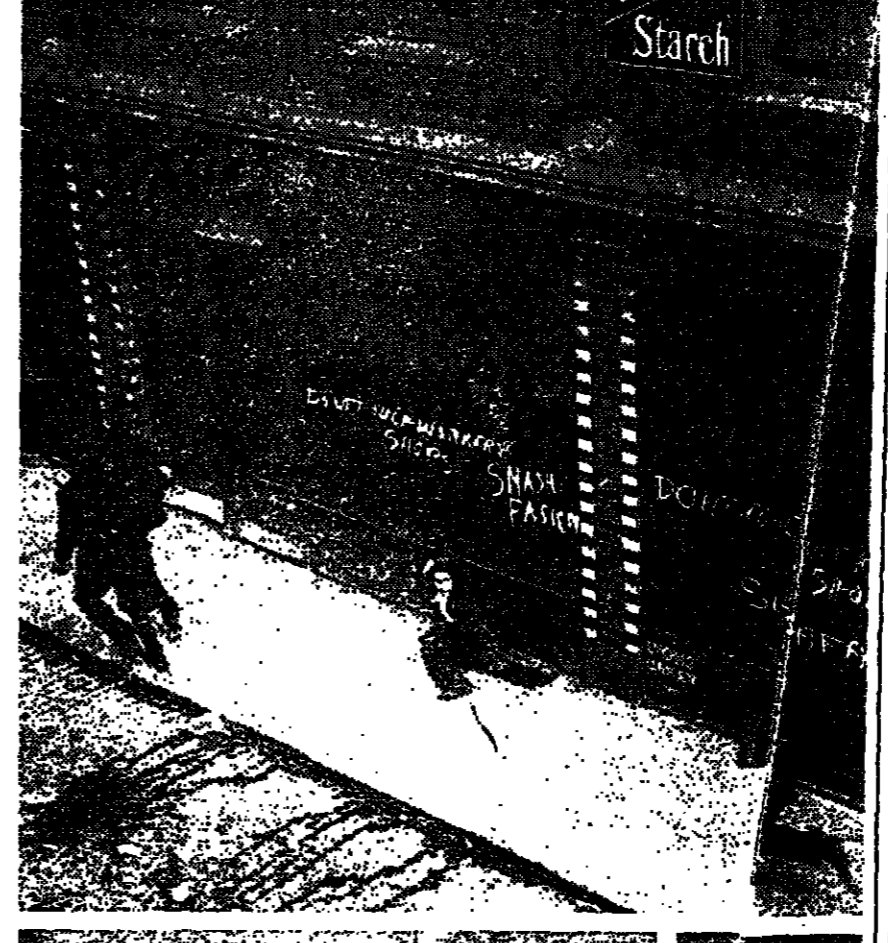
But would he be authorized, so to speak, to go to Italy to try to obtain money?  
 He would not.

Let me deal with it in this way. First of all, you made a good many visits to Italy, did you not?  
 I made a lot of visits to Italy, beginning with May 1920, and I went to Italy whenever I had an opportunity, and to France still oftener.

On these visits, did you see Mussolini?  
 That was the first time I ever met Mussolini. . . . I can save a lot of trouble by saying I met Mussolini at least half a dozen times in my life beginning before the movement started, and if I went to Italy I would always, if it were convenient, see him.

Why was that?  
 Because he was at that time the most interesting man in the world.

The article about Andre Prev announced yesterday, will appear at a later date.



Top: Police chasing demonstrators during the Cable Street riots between the anti-semitic Mosley fascists and their opponents. Above right: Lord Rothermere, donor of secret funds, with Hitler in 1937. Above right: Nuffield, another covert source of funds.



### AN OCCASIONAL COMMENTARY ON CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Yes, Henry, I know I said I was going to a matinee. I changed my mind, went to Fortnams instead and stocked up for Christmas. Now that's what I call entertainment. Just look at all these fabulous things.

I've got a York Ham cooked on the bone, a Terrine of Foie Gras aux Truffes du Perigord, a whole baby Siltan, some Smoked Salmon, a small Truckle Cheddar, and as a special treat some Beluga Caviar.

No, Henry, it's not a lot really. We must have plenty enough for the unexpected guest - and we'll have plenty of those if people hear we bought all our Christmas goodies at Fortnams.

Don't drop that, Henry - it's a Whisky Decanter. Of course it's heavy - it's full of 12 year old malt whisky and you know how fond you are of that. Oh, bother, I've told you what I'm giving you for Christmas.

If you haven't done your Christmas shopping yet, Fortnams is open until 6pm on Weekdays and 5.30pm on Saturdays.

**Fortnum & Mason**  
 such stuff as dreams are made on  
 Piccadilly London W1A 1ER. Telephone 01-7343040

مكتبة الأصيل



THE ARTS



BBC1 tonight screens a dramatization of Rex Warner's novel *The Aerodrome*. Robin Chapman, who wrote the script, here reflects upon the problems of turning book into play

Why the dramatist must always aim to be explicit

Peter Firth in *The Aerodrome*

Of course Emily Brontë is not in the business of the dramatist's everyday country folk realism - she is in the way of returning her characters to the moorland folklore as they sprang, they are to be as they have been in death. *Wuthering Heights* will never be easy to dramatize and probably never should be. What does a dramatist actually do with a more manageable masterpiece like *The Aerodrome* is more effectively realized in a single concentrated form. To dramatize it would be to ask an audience to accept the family relationships in the story at a more time to receive the book simply as it is, suppressing any likes or dislikes, forcing myself to have no opinion just as I do when at work on a novel or play of my own: the raw material is just that - raw. At this early stage, I can only conclude that I do not like to dramatize a book I have so much enjoyed. After this first consideration is whether the book's spirit is reflected in a single screenplay or in several episodes. The impact (let

alone the dramatic construction) of a 90-minute screenplay is quite different from a four or six-part serialisation. The former is like a specially exhibited major painting, the latter a gallery hung with related tapestries. There is more theatrical heat and energy in a single screenplay than in a serial and some novels are better suited to one than the other. For example, the Kafkaesque surrealism of *The Aerodrome* is more effectively realized in a single concentrated form. To dramatize it would be to ask an audience to accept the family relationships in the story at a more time to receive the book simply as it is, suppressing any likes or dislikes, forcing myself to have no opinion just as I do when at work on a novel or play of my own: the raw material is just that - raw. At this early stage, I can only conclude that I do not like to dramatize a book I have so much enjoyed. After this first consideration is whether the book's spirit is reflected in a single screenplay or in several episodes. The impact (let

flavour? An example: John Mortimer rightly decided that in *Brideshead Revisited* Charles Ryder had to remain as the narrator/author/surrogate Waugh. Transpose the book's events into third person drama, with the camera casting a coldly objective eye, and the subject would dissolve into a miasma of *Vogue*-ish occasions; Waugh's popish Bunburying is chiefly made palatable by Ryder's tone of voice. I then make a list of all the actions as they occur in the book. Every single action in order. This list-making is a rather childish, reductive and uninformative part of the job. Absolutely necessary because invariably you cannot include all the actions (dramatic action takes longer to be performed on the page than it does so inevitably there are choices to be made: can we have the fire and the near drowning, or should one of these stand for both? Apart from selecting the actions that you believe best represent the author's intention, you also have to consider the order in which they happen; the sequence in the book may not be that best suited to the screen. Truffaut's dictum, a film should have a beginning, a middle and an end, but not necessarily in that order, always applies. These preparations are necessary because the dramatist must be in command of his material. He must have experienced and absorbed it so that in writing the screen version he need not refer continually to the original: do that and a jerky precis with odd emphases is likely to result. Overall comprehension leaves the dramatist free to be imaginatively faithful to the original author. In all, by virtue of the processes I have described, the dramatist becomes a creative literary critic: he makes a play for the screen out of his selective analysis of the primary material, frequently having to make explicit what was implicit. As we know, a text changes every time it is read: how much more does it change when it is transposed from one medium to another with pictures replacing literature's moral landscapes?

Television Killing society

BBC's Panorama set out last night to expose the inadequacies of the law relating to deaths on the roads. The ambivalent attitude of courts and police to this kind of "social killing", and the "total collusion" between courts and insurance companies to keep compensation low and hard to get. The reporter Margaret Jay and the producer Tom Bower made an alarming, convincing job of it.

They examined several cases, talking to those who had killed, relatives of those who had been killed, police and prosecutors. Miss Kay's incisive questioning left several hanging on the ropes. The worst case, which qualified because of the numbers involved, was that of Ron Bolton who, he said, had fallen asleep at the wheel. His 32-ton lorry ploughed into a stationary mini-bus on the M6 and wiped out a family of seven Asians. He was fined £350 for careless driving and £325 for altering his tachograph, and disqualified from driving for a year. He altered the tachograph to conceal a stop in Birmingham to see his girlfriend. Police, admitted Supt Waring, of the Greater Manchester force, who was in charge of the investigation, had not interviewed the girl to examine whether Mr Bolton's sleepiness was culpable. She had not been regarded as a material witness. Supt Waring spoke of the difficulty of producing evidence which would have been required for a more serious charge. It was necessary, he said, to prove that a driver took a risk knowing what the end-product of it would be. Arnold Singer, chairman of the Wigan bench, who heard the case, conceded that he had been "a little surprised that the lesser charge was brought". Mr Bolton - who, it was said, had no intention of paying the fine, though he volunteered that he had received pound notes as well as congratulations from members of the National Front - said it was "just the kind of thing that happens". He subsequently described himself as a "bastard who did not give a damn for anybody".

Recently I read a preview of the final episode of Troy Kennedy Martin's adaptation of Angus Wilson's *The Old Men at the Zoo*, in which the adapter was rebuffed for making what had been implicit in the novel explicit on screen. There are of course plenty of misconceptions about the job of adapting novels for television. Perfectly intelligent well-read persons can and do assume that you just "do the dialogue". They are often surprised when you say you are equally concerned with what is seen as what is heard. "Oh, I thought the director did the visuals?" they reply. At this point you take a deep breath - well, I do - and either change the subject, or else tough it out with a lecture on the mode of the narrative voice: first person versus third tends to switch pretty well everybody off, which is not to say I shall not come back to it. Perhaps some prevalent misunderstandings come from the term "adaptation" itself. "Dramatization" is also used but not so widely, though it does describe the job more precisely. Adaptation suggests something akin to editorial abridgement (condensed classics) rather than the more muscular business of expressing a novel in dramatic terms. Some novels, of course, lend themselves more readily to the process - clearly *Oliver Twist* would be easier to dramatize than *The Waves*. And that brings me back to Kennedy Martin's previewer who appeared momentarily unaware that the job of the dramatist is always to be explicit. There are no exceptions to this rule. Nor does the explicitness of drama mean it cannot be subtle or imply infinities of unexpressed emotion (take Chekhov), but the dramatist achieves such ineffabilities only by way of specific actions, however large or small. Theatre is the verb, not the adjective. Joan Littlewood used to say, and here we have the crucial difference between novel and drama - a novel is essentially descriptive, a play essentially active. A novel can be action-packed, but it will still be a chronicle of described people moving in described landscapes. For the

dramatizer those people and landscapes will be on view; all novels are historical, all plays modern. The novelists can choose to be explicit or implicit. Certain things can only be left unsaid or merely hinted at, so that the reader's imagination is free to work on deliberately imprecise and therefore evocative information. A dramatist cannot do this - before all else an audience must know what is happening on a realistic level. Drama cannot be impressionistic for long. Juxtaposed images can tease us a minute or so, but then the expected must occur even if it is only a letter being posted through a door to join others already lying on the mat. A perfect example of the evocative power of implication in the novel that would provide problems for the adapting dramatist is Heathcliff's "nightwalk" and fervid death at the end of *Wuthering Heights*. Here the question is: Has Heathcliff sinned? Cathy again? Put like that seems comic and if the question is answered in the affirmative and dramatized, it could easily become even more so on screen, because it does not mean the dramatist can ignore it. As readers we already know that Heathcliff has opened Cathy's coffin once before and made certain alterations, so that when she comes to be buried there on the other side of Cathy from her husband Linton he will have easier access to his dead love. How a corpse moves across to embrace another is not a question Emily Brontë need answer, of course, nor whether on his "nightwalk" Heathcliff checked the coffin arrangements and embraced the beloved corpse once more. But a dramatist needs to know or at least decide from the evidence available. Did he, didn't he? And if you decide Heathcliff did, do you dramatize his nightwalk? Or if you decide he did not dig Cathy up again, do you pretend the implication is not there in the original when it deliberately and powerfully yet imprecisely is?

Galleries

A message of entranced delight

Variety is always the spice of life in Cork Street, and seldom more than at this time of year, when London's commercial galleries, even the grandest, hope against hope that the Christmas spirit will descend like a benison and people will buy paintings, if not for themselves, at least for one another. There is, of course, as they say, no obligation to purchase, so whether your taste in Christmas presents runs to enormous canvases by Julian Schnabel at over £30,000 apiece or to tiny watercolours around the £35-50 mark, or whether you just like to look, a little rambles along Cork Street should be well worth your while - especially since it boasts at the moment two completely new galleries for your delectation. You might start with Browse and Darby, who have a wholly beguiling show of paintings by James Reeve (until December 21), Barnett Freedman's lithograph for *Jane Eyre* or Picasso's sketches for Ovid. Some of the pieces are very familiar, and some very rare, but all-in-all they make a cheery assemblage. Cross the road to the Piccadilly Gallery, and you will find an equally varied Christmas Exhibition with some lovely Symbolist and Art Nouveau drawings, a couple by the improbably named Uriel Birbaum of

particular interest, and a wonderfully characteristic Balbus drawing of a girl preparing for a bath. At this point you might as well go back to the Robert Fraser and Mayne Galleries, which between them an extensive show of Dalí Drawings from the Edward James Collection (until December 21). James was one of Dalí's prime patrons in the Thirties, and notoriety had the pick of his production so it is not surprising even for those, like myself, who cannot quite take Dalí, and certainly cannot take him seriously, the evidences are certainly impressive. He certainly has a cunning way with a pencil, and some of his most rabid fantasies women dressed as drawers, everyone topped with multiple crucifixes - find better forms here in his paintings. And sometimes, like the visionary *Le triptyque de Lautréamont dix-neuf ans*, do haunt one. On the back of the Mayor Gallery are recent collages by Roland Penrose, funny and mischievous by turns. Strongly tied to representation, of his weird kind, is Ken Kiff, who is showing in Cork Street at Nicola Jacobs (until December 23). What he represents is a dream - or sometimes a nightmare - world of his own devising, in which dwarfs, monsters of all kinds proliferate through sometimes the most beautiful things out. A number of brilliantly coloured new pieces, as well as the violent charcoal drawings, seem to reflect on the role of woman in this world. Kiff may be an



Intermittently impressive: detail from Dalí's *Naissance de l'ameublement paranoïaque*

acquired taste, but at least once you have seen his works, like them or not, you are never likely to forget them or confuse them with anyone else's. The Waddington Galleries are difficult to fit into a neat itinerary of Cork Street because by now they seem about ready to take over; as well as numbers 4 and 31, they have recently acquired one of the new spaces I mentioned, surprisingly big and eminently suitable for the showing of the sort of large painting people will paint these days. Just as well, since along with Mick Moon paintings at 4, and Hoyland Graphics at 31, they have an extensive show of new work by Julian Schnabel (until December 23). Mr Schnabel told me a little while ago that there was no point in his showing in Britain, as no one in Britain could afford him. Perhaps he has changed his mind, and indeed most of the paintings in this show seem already to be sold. He has certainly changed his style a bit; no more the encrustations of broken pottery in paint inches deep. Instead we have a development from the simple drawings (very large-scale) which he has been doing of late, by the addition of more or less arbitrary flows of translucent paint and splodges of thick colour which have the modish advantage of suggesting the current American revival of interest in the procedures of Abstract Expressionism without being totally subservient to it. In spite of his success, Schnabel seems to be a gifted painter of whom more may reasonably be expected. Finally, the other new gallery, the Odette Gilbert at number 5. This has for its opening show an

Imagination Hammersmith Odeon

The first surprise was the discovery that, although the members of Imagination may have black skins, they are not what is crudely known in the trade as a "black act": their audience was solidly pink and white, with an average age of about 17 and a preponderance of shrill girls whose attention, it became apparent, was fixed as firmly on the cut of Lee John's satin shorts as on the easy sensuality of the songs - such as "Body Talk", "Just an Illusion" and "In the Heat of the Night" - that have kept the trio in the pop charts of Britain and Europe for the past couple of years. To these ears, Imagination's records are as convincing as any soul music on this side of the Atlantic as "Made in Britain" tag peeps out above the collar. Indeed, the clever layering of

Pop music

electronic keyboards devised by their producers, Tony Swaine and Steve Jolley, is more suggestive of the sophisticated discotheques of Continental Europe; perhaps that explains why they are Caroline of Monaco's favourite group and why they do not find similar acceptance among young British Blacks. In any event, their show turned out to be rather impressive. A reputation for campiness and silly costumes proved only partly justified: the preening was consistently pricked by the self-aware humour, and the threads could not disguise either their highly developed musicianship (their drummer must surely be the first to have perfected a mimesis of the hard crash and machine-gun rattle of the fashionable percussion synthesizers) or their ability to make a four-bar bass pattern, a keyboard texture and a fragment of lyric evoke a mood. The lush slow-motion funk of "Body Talk" and "Music and Lights" were what most of us turned up to hear: built on keyboard bass, they did not disappoint. A broader range was suggested by several songs, such as "In and Out of Love", which fused the brisk, big attack of Chic with the Police's reggae, but the newer material (from their current LP, *Schizoid*) indicated that they are now being run out of commercial books. More positively, one was left with impressions of the versatility of Ashley Ingram, who performed well on electric piano, guitar and bass, of the surprising vocal flexibility of Lee John, and of the scarcely credible physical dexterity of the four young body-popping dancers whose routines were memorably showcased during one section of a show which worked hard to entertain and generally succeeded.

Richard Williams

Richard Williams

Dennis Hackett

Dennis Hackett

InterContemporain/Barbican

Midway through the Olivetti Webern Cycle, Pierre Boulez and his crack ensemble from Paris arrived to prove - to encouraging and enthusiastic audiences that it is perfectly possible to enjoy Webern, and very nearly possible to perform him. Scores so attenuated and finely tuned will always seem a little degraded when turned into the rude stuff of sound, but Boulez knows from the experience of a quarter-century how to make Webern's music spring to rhythmic life, and in his Ensemble InterContemporain he has players who can not only bring individual rarity and intensity to so many tiny phrases but also work together in breathing those phrases into larger patterns. Most spectacular, because most unexpected, was their success with the Concerto for horn, which normally sounds like a game of three-dimensional chess. On Sunday it was still a game, but one with more

Concerts

important issues than mere pattern: there wit, playfulness and a nostalgic and desperate clinging across the music's glittering surfaces. By the Quartet with saxophone of the same period seem to be a conductor, but not these mountain abstracts in the pre-Anschlusz years, symphony, was beautiful and with solo strings to its fragility and sensuality. Those were qualities of Phyllis Bryn-Julson, in both the ensemble and concerts, during the of which she took on all the songs for voice and ensemble. One would have to be both a Bryn-Julson and a Miss Bryn-Julson, but Miss Bryn-Julson is more the Mélisande, she has the technique of a tender singer that most requires. She was lovely pair of little Rilke songs one to his own work Webern did not publish hers because it speaks openly of his grief at the loss of his mother, the grief

John Russell Taylor

expressed more obliquely in very much of his music. Of the later songs one ought to feel more the splinters of glass in the penitential Five Canons with clarinets, but Miss Bryn-Julson's soft, intimate, wholly unworried naturalness in the wildly difficult Op 18 group rightly made them into a sweet hymn to the Virgin. Grief and piety: possibly these are things too personal for festivals, too touching to be experienced again and again as work follows work. But Webern is finding his public. Paul Griffiths

Both deaf and blind



How do you explain things to someone who is both deaf and blind? Life will be a constant struggle and most work will be quite impossible. Do you think that you could cope? The RNID's residential services have been expanded to include provision for deaf/blind youngsters and for deaf people who have been mentally ill. We also promote medical research and provide extensive scientific, technical, educational, welfare and information services. Will you help us? RNID. The Royal National Institute for the Deaf. Please send what you can afford to RNID, Room DB, 163 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AH. For details telephone 01-387 9833.

Advertisement for a play titled 'SPECIAL OCCASIONS'. It features the names John Alderton and Jan Waters. The text includes 'IN A NEW ROMANTIC COMEDY' and 'WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY BERNARD SLADE'. There is also a small graphic of a man's face.

Advertisement for a concert featuring the Greek pianist Aleka Simeonidou. The text describes her performance and mentions Stephen Pettitt. It includes details about the venue, time, and ticket prices.



# Henry Stanhope puts the Kuwait bombings in a world perspective Kamikaze: is London at risk?

## For horrific just read nasty

### THE TIMES DIARY

#### By-the-way election

After the unruly goings-on last week at a meeting of the Brent Council, Neil Kinnoch condemned the local rent-a-mob but also said: "My personal view is that if individuals have not sufficient sense of honour to put themselves before the electorate when they change their party allegiance, consideration must be given to introducing legislation which would make fresh elections mandatory." It is thought that he was referring to Mrs Ambrozie Neil, who switched from Labour to Conservative in Brent, and not to Mr Gordon Ley, who formally rejoined the Labour group of Lambeth Council two weeks ago. Mr Ley stood as an SDP candidate in 1982, after defecting from Labour. His return to the fold is unlikely to be marked by a by-election.

#### Never-never

The Bangkok branch of Chartered Bank is missing £3m - but has turned down an offer by an absconding clerk to return it. The clerk sent a telegram promising to pay it back in monthly instalments of £3,000 - interest-free. The bank pins its hopes of getting most of it back in one lump sum via Interpol.



● In case you were unclear as to whose birthday Christmas is supposed to celebrate, Robert Maxwell's greetings card this year shows his home, Headington Hill Hall, against a firework-filled sky and the lit-up legend, "Happy birthday Bob". Mr Maxwell turned 60 on June 10.

#### Hard lines

Tomorrow night, Channel 4 presents its Arts Review of the year, presented by Melvyn Bragg. The items include a review of the Channel 4 arts programme by Davies. Channel 4 earlier reported that Davies will be protesting letter piece, in "Brass" of drama and Nick Lowe's Weekend Television, and Jerry Isaacs, chief executive of Channel 4's commissioning editor for the arts and the man responsible for commissioning *The Orchestra*.

#### Freeloading

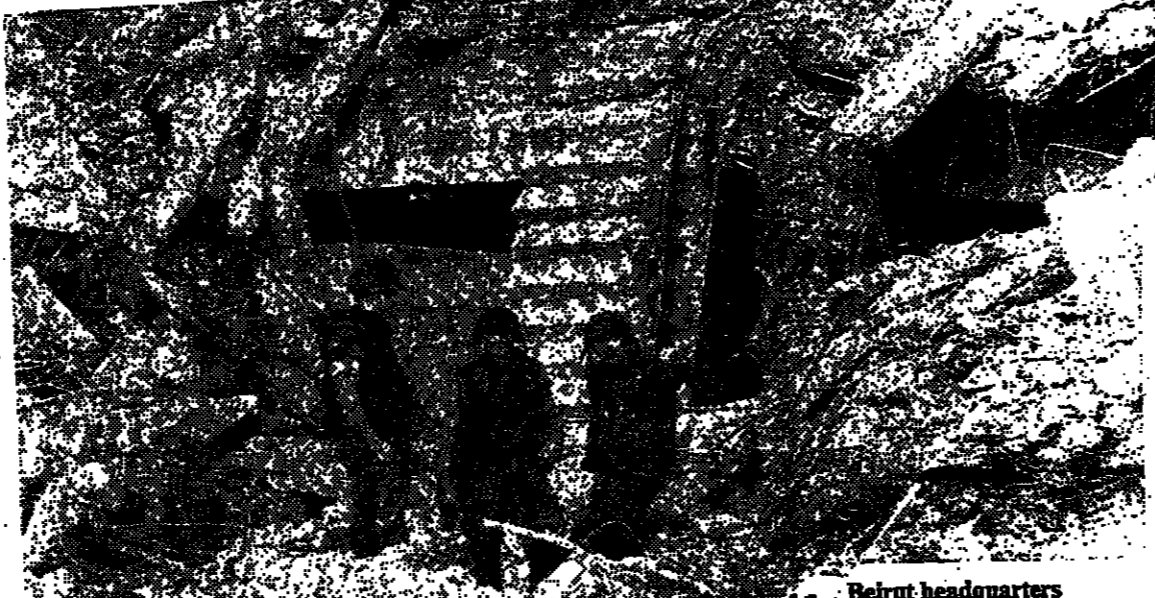
The best thing that can happen to just about anywhere is to be designated a freeport. This labelled, a town can buy goods, turn them into something completely different, export them again and not pay any duty. Nor surprisingly, the Government has received 45 applications from areas wishing to become freeports, and will decide in January which are to be among the lucky four or five chosen. In Scotland, competition is fierce between Prestwick and Aberdeen. Prestwick has waged a year-long campaign, but Aberdeen is coming up fast on outside. Its promoters are giving 15 influential MPs breakfast at Burke's Club tomorrow and, to make the occasion a whole lot cushier, is "harrying" them there and back in a fleet of taxis.



#### Loose talk

It must be something to do with the time of year, as these examples of slightly slurred language landed on my desk on the same morning. From the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn: "The first Mess of the Sunday is held each Saturday of the Dining Room at 6.00 pm." From "Royal Shakespeare Restaurants": "This Company does not impose a SERVICE CHARGE as such; however the labour cost element is based at 15 per cent." From Safety and Fire News: "In this subsection, the relevant building in the case of a building means that building, and in the case of a matter connected with a building, means the building with which the matter is connected." And from a firm of solicitors in Kent: "These offices will be closed from midday on Friday December 23 1983 until 9 am on Tuesday January 3 1984. In emergency matrimonial children and criminal matters telephone - . In case of death telephone - ."

Yesterday's series of explosions in Kuwait has served only to deepen western concern over the latest weapon in the arsenal of terrorism. The kamikaze bomb traces its origin to the tiny Gulf state just after President Reagan himself had warned the West of a force of 1,000 suicide killers which has been assembled in the Middle East. American intelligence reports suggest that the suicide squads, recruited principally among Iranian extremists, have the American, British, Italian and French contingents of the Beirut peacekeeping force most clearly as their targets. It is not beyond the bounds of possibility, however, that they could carry the campaign not only to the embassies and consulates of the four countries in the Middle East but to their capital cities. In Washington, access to the White House has been further impeded by the introduction of concrete barriers and dirt-filled dumper trucks. According to one report, surface-to-air missiles are being installed nearby to protect Mr Reagan against any attack from the air.



After the October 23 kamikaze bomb, US marines in the rubble of the Beirut headquarters

The provision of a specific air defence screen for the White House has been the subject of speculation since 1974, when a stolen army helicopter landed on the lawn. The missiles referred to are probably the shoulder-fired Red-eye or Stinger. American counterparts to the Russian Sam-2s, as always, Scotland Yard refuses, as always, to discuss counter-terrorist measures in London. It points out only that senior officers keep closely in touch with developments in terrorist tactics throughout the world. But the mere threat of kamikaze attacks presents the most alarming problem so far to our anti-terrorist forces.

Kamikaze raids have confronted security forces since the Second World War when Japanese pilots, their bomb-bays packed with high explosive, dived on to the decks of allied warships in the Pacific. In recent years the readiness of fanatics to die for their faith has been well evidenced in the Middle East and Northern Ireland - the hunger strikers from whom we chose a lonely martyr.

But even the most determined stopped short of the police, relying on British troops to lead with instead of to the scene by a car. In his mate held up to ensure his cooperation. As the attacks on American French peacekeeping troops in Beirut on October 23 that alerted western security experts to the devastating effect of a truck piled high with explosives, driven at speed through outer defences by men willing to die in the attack.

Precautions against the threat have been taken by a number of forces since then, conspicuously by the Israelis in southern Lebanon. Most of their bases there have now completely disappeared from view behind 20-ft walls of earth. The Israelis have spent huge sums of man-hours trying to dig out most fail-safe schemes of their own attacks which, it is said, could occur without a discovered national booby-trap. A heavy armoured tank outside the only Lebanese rig to be removed only after a rigorous inspection of a driver's credentials. Elaborate screens of concrete blocks impede the approach, making it impossible for the driver of a suicide vehicle to build up momentum. Searchlights, barbed wire and sandbags, together with the construction of additional watchtowers, give the Israeli units the appearance of an army under siege.

Israeli experts say that the kamikaze attack at Tyre, which followed those against the American and French at Beirut, would have resulted in an even higher casualty toll than 61 had the driver been shot and the truck stopped a few yards short of its objective. This is why the Egyptian army, at large on early intervention, has been central in installing several hundred Sidsa, vehicle main entrance. Beirut, the Israelis, for all their yards, privately acknowledge they cannot hope to eliminate the threat entirely and their precautions are designed principally to reduce the risk of casualties.

US officials see the Rangoon bombing which killed several South Korean ministers as another example of the latest wave of international terrorism. Great attention is therefore being paid to the protection of US missions abroad - many of them housed in buildings constructed long before architects had to consider stringent security measures. In Beirut, the American and French contingents in the multinational force have been daily improving their defences. Even so, the American embassy in Kuwait was being devastated, US marines at Beirut airport were shoring up their new underground shelters, constructed out of long-abandoned Soviet container trucks.

Warnings of fresh attacks reach the French and American troops almost daily, sometimes passed on by their own embassies elsewhere in the Arab world, and sometimes coming from the Lebanese Deukhane Bureau. But despite a conviction by the Lebanese free of foreign armies. But Mrs Thatcher is likely to treat his visit with considerable caution. For a start, Mr Gemayel's own domestic position needs to be carefully examined. When he sees Mrs Thatcher - and if he meets any journalists tomorrow - there are certain questions he will not wish to hear. Why, for example, has his government imposed an 8 pm curfew on the half-million people living in the western, largely Muslim, sector of Beirut while the Christian population of East Beirut can move around freely 24 hours a day?

Why does Mr Gemayel continue to employ Mr Zahi Boustani, a senior member of the Christian Phalange militia, as head of the Lebanese Sureté Generale? Why is it that the Phalangist militias, in their own military trucks and carrying their own automatic rifles, are permitted to drive freely through East Beirut while equally illegal Muslim militias risk arrest or even death if they move around in West Beirut outside the area they still control at Bourj al-Barajneh? In September, when Lebanon's third civil war started, Phalangist government troops and Phalangist militia sometimes positioned their guns only a few hundred yards from each other. Mr Gemayel was a senior Phalangist official until he assumed the presidency. Has this anything to do with the strange state of affairs in Beirut? This is not to argue that Muslim militias should be permitted on the streets of Beirut or that the Lebanese army is intrinsically biased. The army has in fact held together remarkably well these past six months. But Mr Gemayel's government is supposed to control the army, and these are important questions when the line to prop up the supposed impartiality of Mr Gemayel's administration. The whole matter is thrown into

Beirut on October 23 that alerted western security experts to the devastating effect of a truck piled high with explosives, driven at speed through outer defences by men willing to die in the attack. Precautions against the threat have been taken by a number of forces since then, conspicuously by the Israelis in southern Lebanon. Most of their bases there have now completely disappeared from view behind 20-ft walls of earth. The Israelis have spent huge sums of man-hours trying to dig out most fail-safe schemes of their own attacks which, it is said, could occur without a discovered national booby-trap. A heavy armoured tank outside the only Lebanese rig to be removed only after a rigorous inspection of a driver's credentials. Elaborate screens of concrete blocks impede the approach, making it impossible for the driver of a suicide vehicle to build up momentum. Searchlights, barbed wire and sandbags, together with the construction of additional watchtowers, give the Israeli units the appearance of an army under siege.

Israeli experts say that the kamikaze attack at Tyre, which followed those against the American and French at Beirut, would have resulted in an even higher casualty toll than 61 had the driver been shot and the truck stopped a few yards short of its objective. This is why the Egyptian army, at large on early intervention, has been central in installing several hundred Sidsa, vehicle main entrance. Beirut, the Israelis, for all their yards, privately acknowledge they cannot hope to eliminate the threat entirely and their precautions are designed principally to reduce the risk of casualties.

US officials see the Rangoon bombing which killed several South Korean ministers as another example of the latest wave of international terrorism. Great attention is therefore being paid to the protection of US missions abroad - many of them housed in buildings constructed long before architects had to consider stringent security measures. In Beirut, the American and French contingents in the multinational force have been daily improving their defences. Even so, the American embassy in Kuwait was being devastated, US marines at Beirut airport were shoring up their new underground shelters, constructed out of long-abandoned Soviet container trucks.

Warnings of fresh attacks reach the French and American troops almost daily, sometimes passed on by their own embassies elsewhere in the Arab world, and sometimes coming from the Lebanese Deukhane Bureau. But despite a conviction by the Lebanese free of foreign armies. But Mrs Thatcher is likely to treat his visit with considerable caution. For a start, Mr Gemayel's own domestic position needs to be carefully examined. When he sees Mrs Thatcher - and if he meets any journalists tomorrow - there are certain questions he will not wish to hear. Why, for example, has his government imposed an 8 pm curfew on the half-million people living in the western, largely Muslim, sector of Beirut while the Christian population of East Beirut can move around freely 24 hours a day?

Why does Mr Gemayel continue to employ Mr Zahi Boustani, a senior member of the Christian Phalange militia, as head of the Lebanese Sureté Generale? Why is it that the Phalangist militias, in their own military trucks and carrying their own automatic rifles, are permitted to drive freely through East Beirut while equally illegal Muslim militias risk arrest or even death if they move around in West Beirut outside the area they still control at Bourj al-Barajneh? In September, when Lebanon's third civil war started, Phalangist government troops and Phalangist militia sometimes positioned their guns only a few hundred yards from each other. Mr Gemayel was a senior Phalangist official until he assumed the presidency. Has this anything to do with the strange state of affairs in Beirut? This is not to argue that Muslim militias should be permitted on the streets of Beirut or that the Lebanese army is intrinsically biased. The army has in fact held together remarkably well these past six months. But Mr Gemayel's government is supposed to control the army, and these are important questions when the line to prop up the supposed impartiality of Mr Gemayel's administration. The whole matter is thrown into

far darker relief, however, by Mr Reagan's actions. Having declared that his marines were neutral, he has now allied his country with Israel in a way he has never done before, thus forfeiting the marines' credibility well in Washington. Mr Reagan's men talk of Syria as the stumbling block to peace in Lebanon, whereas many Lebanese, including some Phalangists, believe that Israel should be included. Attacks on the marines - which may have been encouraged by the Syrians and might even have been arranged by them - provoked the president into a politically disastrous air raid on Syrian ground troops which prompted Damascus to strengthen its relationship with Moscow.

Mr Reagan's new alliance with Israel might make sense if the Israelis were showing some sort of military or political success in Lebanon. But their Lebanese adventure has proved almost worthless and they are now deep in another catastrophe south of the Awali River, having alienated many of the local Shia population and set up their own militia gangs on the roads, just as the Syrians have done in eastern Lebanon. The Israeli defence minister speaks of Lebanon as "a nest of murderers", ignoring the fact that Israel, like Syria, has helped to arm many of these murderers, particularly those who carried out the Sabra and Chatila massacres last year. Lebanon is heading towards far graver tragedies, and even Mr Gemayel probably knows that, Mrs Thatcher will have been told the same by her own advisers. It is a sign of the times that the multinational force, which entered Lebanon to ensure the departure of foreign armies, now finds itself more anxious to guarantee its own early evacuation than that of the Syrians or Israelis.

stopped a few yards short of its objective. This is why the Egyptian army, at large on early intervention, has been central in installing several hundred Sidsa, vehicle main entrance. Beirut, the Israelis, for all their yards, privately acknowledge they cannot hope to eliminate the threat entirely and their precautions are designed principally to reduce the risk of casualties.

US officials see the Rangoon bombing which killed several South Korean ministers as another example of the latest wave of international terrorism. Great attention is therefore being paid to the protection of US missions abroad - many of them housed in buildings constructed long before architects had to consider stringent security measures. In Beirut, the American and French contingents in the multinational force have been daily improving their defences. Even so, the American embassy in Kuwait was being devastated, US marines at Beirut airport were shoring up their new underground shelters, constructed out of long-abandoned Soviet container trucks.

Warnings of fresh attacks reach the French and American troops almost daily, sometimes passed on by their own embassies elsewhere in the Arab world, and sometimes coming from the Lebanese Deukhane Bureau. But despite a conviction by the Lebanese free of foreign armies. But Mrs Thatcher is likely to treat his visit with considerable caution. For a start, Mr Gemayel's own domestic position needs to be carefully examined. When he sees Mrs Thatcher - and if he meets any journalists tomorrow - there are certain questions he will not wish to hear. Why, for example, has his government imposed an 8 pm curfew on the half-million people living in the western, largely Muslim, sector of Beirut while the Christian population of East Beirut can move around freely 24 hours a day?

Why does Mr Gemayel continue to employ Mr Zahi Boustani, a senior member of the Christian Phalange militia, as head of the Lebanese Sureté Generale? Why is it that the Phalangist militias, in their own military trucks and carrying their own automatic rifles, are permitted to drive freely through East Beirut while equally illegal Muslim militias risk arrest or even death if they move around in West Beirut outside the area they still control at Bourj al-Barajneh? In September, when Lebanon's third civil war started, Phalangist government troops and Phalangist militia sometimes positioned their guns only a few hundred yards from each other. Mr Gemayel was a senior Phalangist official until he assumed the presidency. Has this anything to do with the strange state of affairs in Beirut? This is not to argue that Muslim militias should be permitted on the streets of Beirut or that the Lebanese army is intrinsically biased. The army has in fact held together remarkably well these past six months. But Mr Gemayel's government is supposed to control the army, and these are important questions when the line to prop up the supposed impartiality of Mr Gemayel's administration. The whole matter is thrown into

far darker relief, however, by Mr Reagan's actions. Having declared that his marines were neutral, he has now allied his country with Israel in a way he has never done before, thus forfeiting the marines' credibility well in Washington. Mr Reagan's men talk of Syria as the stumbling block to peace in Lebanon, whereas many Lebanese, including some Phalangists, believe that Israel should be included. Attacks on the marines - which may have been encouraged by the Syrians and might even have been arranged by them - provoked the president into a politically disastrous air raid on Syrian ground troops which prompted Damascus to strengthen its relationship with Moscow.

Mr Reagan's new alliance with Israel might make sense if the Israelis were showing some sort of military or political success in Lebanon. But their Lebanese adventure has proved almost worthless and they are now deep in another catastrophe south of the Awali River, having alienated many of the local Shia population and set up their own militia gangs on the roads, just as the Syrians have done in eastern Lebanon. The Israeli defence minister speaks of Lebanon as "a nest of murderers", ignoring the fact that Israel, like Syria, has helped to arm many of these murderers, particularly those who carried out the Sabra and Chatila massacres last year. Lebanon is heading towards far graver tragedies, and even Mr Gemayel probably knows that, Mrs Thatcher will have been told the same by her own advisers. It is a sign of the times that the multinational force, which entered Lebanon to ensure the departure of foreign armies, now finds itself more anxious to guarantee its own early evacuation than that of the Syrians or Israelis.

tax system is crying out for reform. With honourable exceptions, the last people to recognize the

After the October 23 kamikaze bomb, US marines in the rubble of the Beirut headquarters

After the October 23 kamikaze bomb, US marines in the rubble of the Beirut headquarters

After the October 23 kamikaze bomb, US marines in the rubble of the Beirut headquarters

After the October 23 kamikaze bomb, US marines in the rubble of the Beirut headquarters

After the October 23 kamikaze bomb, US marines in the rubble of the Beirut headquarters

After the October 23 kamikaze bomb, US marines in the rubble of the Beirut headquarters

After the October 23 kamikaze bomb, US marines in the rubble of the Beirut headquarters

used to watch *The Day After* particularly qualified to comment upon it. I am one of those who has the habit of passing judgement, so as to know in advance which experiences I would rather not have. Nor am I alone. Shocking though it may seem to the enlightened, there are millions of people who, on a first-hand evidence whatsoever, would never see a video nasty decided these ignorant and prejudiced people may even be in the majority; at least I hope that they are. *The Day After* is, by report, a particularly disgusting video nasty, larded with the moralizing cant that one must expect from people who let their thoughts dwell upon the image of human suffering. That it should have been banned, goes without saying. There is no more excuse for displaying a realistic picture of nuclear catastrophe than for displaying a realistic picture of a pregnant woman being cut up with a chain saw, or a live child being slowly disembowelled by hungry cannibals. Those who have no ability to imagine such things when required (and we must imagine the effects of nuclear war if we are to make wise political decisions) are out of our control. And nothing is more dangerous than to provoke mass hysteria in the literal-minded. There is nothing human - not even death itself - that cannot be taken too seriously. And a person without imagination can do anything too seriously. His emotions, once deflected from the realities of daily existence, are out of his control. He cannot permit himself to control them. Where imagination is dead (imagine), fantasy triumphs. Fantasy consists in a morbid fascination with unrealities, which secretly transmute itself into a desire to make them real. Imagination is a forest of intellectual control, which presents us with the image of unreason in order that we should understand and feel distanced from their imagination we dominate; in fantasy we are dominated. Anyone who wishes to know what pornography is - and *The Day After* is of course pornography - ought to study the distinction. When Dante takes his reader through the scenes of hell, what he describes is worse than any nuclear holocaust. He describes a world without hope, a world of ceaseless torment, a world of uncompassionate death, a world (and this is worst of all) denied the redeeming gift of love. But Dante does not dwell morbidly on these images with the lustful hung of the masochist. He invites us to imagine the torments of hell, id, in imagining, to distance ourselves from what we read. We must work to extract his meaning, and the imaginary object which we discover through his verses excites our feelings which, however powerful, are only imaginary. We maintain control of ourselves, and although we are moved, it is with aim and

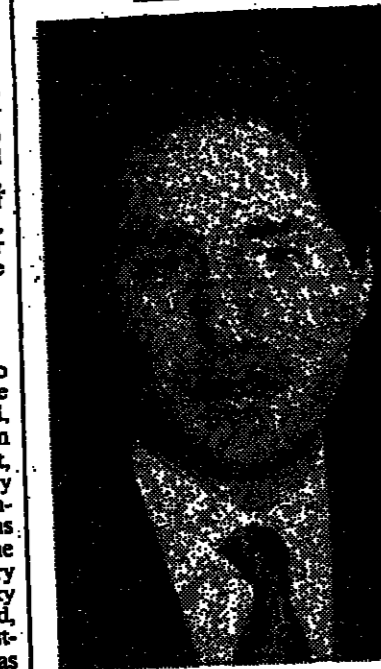
collected emotion, whose main ingredient is compassionate understanding. What is most horrible in Dante's hell is not stated, but implied, and presented to us through a veil of artistic conventions which serve constantly to remind us that we look upon these scenes from a point of view outside them. Even Goya, in his engravings of the horrors of war, subjects his images to a discipline that neutralizes the morbid passions of the merely curious. His powerful lines and contrasts, and his psychological intensity, transform everything that he pictures. A butchered body ceases to be a disgusting relic and becomes instead a symbol of man's hatred of himself. You cannot appreciate Goya's meaning without also stepping back from it. That is why you can live happily with these engravings hanging beside you on the wall. Every critic, and every true artist, knows why, in the Greek tragedy, the actor wears a mask, and the horrible events take place off stage. These devices are designed to stimulate the imagination, by destroying fantasy, which is its greatest enemy and rival. Works of imagination say to us: this is not true, but it concerns you, so understand. Works of fantasy say to us: this is real, real, and you are in it, whether or not you understand. The video nasty employs no conventions comparable to those of the Greek stage. Its pornographic quality consists in its utter dedication to the realistic portrayal of scenes which prey upon our morbid emotions. We acquire a horrible power over us. Those things which most overwhelm us in reality - sex and violence - are the natural subject of fantasy. People in the grip of sexual and violent fantasies are people who have lost control of the centre of their experience. Such people are dangerous to themselves, and dangerous to those around them. That is why pornography - which is the deliberate stimulation of fantasy - is evil, and why it should not be permitted.

It is hard, in a liberal democracy, to persuade people of truths which condemn the guilty pleasures of millions, and which imply that a government is failing in its duty by not exerting strong powers of censorship. But a liberal democracy will not last long when its subjects are prey to violent emotions which they can neither understand nor control. And even if it could last in these circumstances, it would not be worth it. The question raised by *The Day After* is the question of human happiness. What is the value of liberal democracy, if the cost of living in it is that we surrender our brief lives to morbid fantasies which do not here for long, and there may be no other world to which we are proceeding. And because we are weak, would it not be better to be protected from those grim temptations which threaten the little happiness that we may have achieved?

It is hard, in a liberal democracy, to persuade people of truths which condemn the guilty pleasures of millions, and which imply that a government is failing in its duty by not exerting strong powers of censorship. But a liberal democracy will not last long when its subjects are prey to violent emotions which they can neither understand nor control. And even if it could last in these circumstances, it would not be worth it. The question raised by *The Day After* is the question of human happiness. What is the value of liberal democracy, if the cost of living in it is that we surrender our brief lives to morbid fantasies which do not here for long, and there may be no other world to which we are proceeding. And because we are weak, would it not be better to be protected from those grim temptations which threaten the little happiness that we may have achieved?

It is hard, in a liberal democracy, to persuade people of truths which condemn the guilty pleasures of millions, and which imply that a government is failing in its duty by not exerting strong powers of censorship. But a liberal democracy will not last long when its subjects are prey to violent emotions which they can neither understand nor control. And even if it could last in these circumstances, it would not be worth it. The question raised by *The Day After* is the question of human happiness. What is the value of liberal democracy, if the cost of living in it is that we surrender our brief lives to morbid fantasies which do not here for long, and there may be no other world to which we are proceeding. And because we are weak, would it not be better to be protected from those grim temptations which threaten the little happiness that we may have achieved?

### Robert Fisk spells out the significance of tomorrow's talks at No 10



Men of the British peace-keeping contingent: their base has already come under one sustained attack by Muslim militiamen; now there are fears that heavy casualties are only a matter of time

President Gemayel: hoping for reassurance from Mrs Thatcher

But long before Mr Reagan announced his cooperation agreement with Israel or ordered the air raids, Mr Denis Healey was warning that the British "should join in one last effort to open America's eyes to the appalling dangers it is running and seek a settlement which is fair to the Muslim majority in Lebanon; and we should make clear, here and now, that if that fails, we are out - pronto".

It is because of Mr Healey's constant criticism that President Gemayel has specifically asked to see him tomorrow as well as the Prime Minister and Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader. He fears, as well he might, that if the British do find some reason to depart - a new ceasefire, for example, or some preposterously optimistic statement from Washington - that the multinational force will fall apart, taking his government with it.

President Gemayel will not expect to be asked if his country is worth the risk to British lives - whether, indeed, it is worth saving - for an extremely generous measure of incredulity is, now necessary in any serious discussion about Lebanon. When Mrs Thatcher meets President Gemayel tomorrow, she will have to forget temporarily that he controls just five square miles of his country, a strip of his capital that would stretch only from Shore-ditch to the Palace of Westminster, and pretend that Lebanon is still a country. Mr Gemayel will be treated as an honoured guest, even though he came to power in the wreckage of Israel's policy in Lebanon, a policy that originally aimed to place his ruthless brother Bashir in power and which has helped to set up to half of President Gemayel's people against him. Mr Gemayel himself is an eminently nice man. He is shy, unsure of his English, and tries to say what he means. He really does believe in the concept of a united

But long before Mr Reagan announced his cooperation agreement with Israel or ordered the air raids, Mr Denis Healey was warning that the British "should join in one last effort to open America's eyes to the appalling dangers it is running and seek a settlement which is fair to the Muslim majority in Lebanon; and we should make clear, here and now, that if that fails, we are out - pronto".

It is because of Mr Healey's constant criticism that President Gemayel has specifically asked to see him tomorrow as well as the Prime Minister and Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader. He fears, as well he might, that if the British do find some reason to depart - a new ceasefire, for example, or some preposterously optimistic statement from Washington - that the multinational force will fall apart, taking his government with it.

President Gemayel will not expect to be asked if his country is worth the risk to British lives - whether, indeed, it is worth saving - for an extremely generous measure of incredulity is, now necessary in any serious discussion about Lebanon. When Mrs Thatcher meets President Gemayel tomorrow, she will have to forget temporarily that he controls just five square miles of his country, a strip of his capital that would stretch only from Shore-ditch to the Palace of Westminster, and pretend that Lebanon is still a country. Mr Gemayel will be treated as an honoured guest, even though he came to power in the wreckage of Israel's policy in Lebanon, a policy that originally aimed to place his ruthless brother Bashir in power and which has helped to set up to half of President Gemayel's people against him. Mr Gemayel himself is an eminently nice man. He is shy, unsure of his English, and tries to say what he means. He really does believe in the concept of a united

far darker relief, however, by Mr Reagan's actions. Having declared that his marines were neutral, he has now allied his country with Israel in a way he has never done before, thus forfeiting the marines' credibility well in Washington. Mr Reagan's men talk of Syria as the stumbling block to peace in Lebanon, whereas many Lebanese, including some Phalangists, believe that Israel should be included. Attacks on the marines - which may have been encouraged by the Syrians and might even have been arranged by them - provoked the president into a politically disastrous air raid on Syrian ground troops which prompted Damascus to strengthen its relationship with Moscow.

Mr Reagan's new alliance with Israel might make sense if the Israelis were showing some sort of military or political success in Lebanon. But their Lebanese adventure has proved almost worthless and they are now deep in another catastrophe south of the Awali River, having alienated many of the local Shia population and set up their own militia gangs on the roads, just as the Syrians have done in eastern Lebanon. The Israeli defence minister speaks of Lebanon as "a nest of murderers", ignoring the fact that Israel, like Syria, has helped to arm many of these murderers, particularly those who carried out the Sabra and Chatila massacres last year. Lebanon is heading towards far graver tragedies, and even Mr Gemayel probably knows that, Mrs Thatcher will have been told the same by her own advisers. It is a sign of the times that the multinational force, which entered Lebanon to ensure the departure of foreign armies, now finds itself more anxious to guarantee its own early evacuation than that of the Syrians or Israelis.

tax system is crying out for reform. With honourable exceptions, the last people to recognize the

tax system is crying out for reform. With honourable exceptions, the last people to recognize the

### Tark Goyder Taking concern into the classroom

The scene is an ancient Cambridge college: the actors alien of about 30; the occasion a mion for the class of '71. Embued by the munificence of the lege we seek out friendly faces I assess how their owners have caged.

Most of the m have not so much changed as sed. There are exceptions: up con a six-cylinder accountant who ws to know what I earn. And I remember him sitting cross legged on floor, a vaguely Buddhist philosophy.

While individual career choices yield surprises, however, the aggregate is all too predictable. Banking, Whitehall, accountancy, the Bar - that appear to be the "Tinker Tailor" for the gridge man of the early 1970s. I - it a depressing list.

The more elted the profession in its standing rewards, the further it is one - from the problems of e-day life. We give the highest us to those jobs which make people the sophisticated, specid servants of a complex mme. The skill in mastermindi the sale of company's shares valued far more than the sknolved in training and inspire technical apprentices on wb abilities depend the company's re-performance. Consider the problem that confronts: high-status professional: barrister in chambers offers expdvice to his clients, is guided well-defined rules and precedent may have a strong personalist what he needs is an intimate wledge of his discipline and an ty to articulate it. The factory ager, wracked between irate cuters, adverse cash flow and a dralized workforce, needs all his book knowledge, of course; what he needs far more is the ty of leadership that will enable to inspire new efforts from ound him. Sir:hael Edwardes is rightly ambidexous: he succeeded in mng all those around him to "turnnd" British Leyland. But who would not insist that those who want to take advantage of what universities and polytechnics offer show that they have done their bit in the community? Who knows how many of our brightest and best might be spent into different career choices by what they might see? Britain needs more of them in the front line. Mark Goyder works in industry. He is also a trustee of Community Service Volunteers, the national young volunteers' agency.

absurdity of the system will be the accountants who service it. The professions we value most are those which most disable their members from contributing to necessary change. At my Cambridge reunion I spoke to a civil servant who had a superb understanding of the Common Agricultural Policy. When I asked him how it might be reformed he answered that the other EEC countries would never allow us to reform it: clearly his masters had not insisted that he must find a way, and then set him to work.

Blinkered professionalism is the product of our distorted valuation of knowledge. From secondary school onwards, we treat knowledge as a commodity which is required to pass exams. And exam grades are used as commodities to advance individual careers. We fail to treat knowledge as a bank from which we borrow in order to return more rounded people or a better community. There will always be top professions and we should not undervalue the skills they entail. We should at least ensure that tomorrow's professionals have been so educated that they never entirely forget the wider society they exist to serve.

A-level-hungry headmasters used to be wary of community service or outward Bound schemes that took their pupils from their books to the Gorbals or the Cairngorms. But those pupils who participated learnt more about themselves and the world around them than they would from any classroom programme of social education. University technologists whose to design aids for the handicapped discover the rich human rewards in the application of their skills. The civil servants of the future who have worked inside a prison will bring an extra dimension to the Home Office.

Why not insist upon service and experience-broadening modules with the same determination that we insist upon French and English? Why not insist that those who want to take advantage of what universities and polytechnics offer show that they have done their bit in the community? Who knows how many of our brightest and best might be spent into different career choices by what they might see? Britain needs more of them in the front line. Mark Goyder works in industry. He is also a trustee of Community Service Volunteers, the national young volunteers' agency.

مكتبة من الأصل





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

# THE GULF JUGULAR

Yesterday's six explosions in Kuwait are horrifying enough in themselves but the casualties they caused seem, in comparison to those of similar recent events in Lebanon, to have been almost mercifully light. In the circumstances the fact that they happened is less significant than the place where they happened. The primary message intended is clearly that, so long as the United States and France pursue their present policies in the Middle East, their representatives cannot expect to be safe anywhere in the area. The secondary message is that other Arab states beside Lebanon are vulnerable to terrorism and destabilization if they associate themselves with policies of which the perpetrators disapprove. A third message, if needed, might be that the West as a whole is vulnerable to events in the Persian Gulf. Indeed, its interests are much more directly and obviously at stake there than they are in Lebanon.

It is by now generally accepted that the suicide bombings in Lebanon - against the American embassy in Beirut last April, against the American and French contingents of the multinational force in October, and against the Israeli headquarters in Tyre on November 4 - are the work of Shiite extremists, inspired if not directly instigated by revolutionary Iran. A degree of Syrian complicity is widely assumed but not definitely proven.

The attack on the American Embassy in Kuwait was a suicide bombing, the other five incidents yesterday apparently not. There is perhaps a crumb of encouragement to be found there in as much as it suggests the supply of candidates for martyrdom is not absolutely unlimited. But one is enough to establish a strong presumption of some connexion between these events and those in Lebanon. On the other hand, in Kuwait the presumption of Syrian involvement is less strong (though there is certainly no reason to rule it out), while the Iranian connexion is much more obvious.

Kuwait needs no reminder of its vulnerability. In 1961 it narrowly, with some British help, escaped being swallowed by

Iraq, which regarded it much as Spain does Gibraltar, China Hongkong, or Guatemala Belize. Later Iraq renounced its claim to Kuwait proper, but there is still a dispute about the island of Bubiyan, Kuwait's rulers retain a sense of existing on sufferance. They have maintained their independence by observing scrupulously correct relations with Iraq, while cultivating as wide as possible a circle of friends so as to be sure of very strong diplomatic support in the event of any renewed Iraqi threat. Alone of the Arab Gulf states (excluding Iraq itself), Kuwait has diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

The outbreak of war between Iraq and Iran three years ago put Kuwait in an invidious position, to say the least. Kuwait has a land frontier with Iraq but is separated by only twenty miles or so of water from Iran. Prudence and Arab solidarity alike dictated a pro-Iraqi stand, but Kuwait certainly had no interest in becoming a co-belligerent against Iran. Lest she were in danger of forgetting this, occasional Iranian air strikes have been carried out, "by mistake", against her territory. And in addition to this straightforward military threat there is the internal one posed by the presence in Kuwait of a substantial Shiite population, with a propensity to display pin-ups of Ayatollah Khomeini in its houses and shops.

No one could accuse the Kuwaiti authorities of being impervious to this danger. They have been on the watch for any hint that Shiite religious feeling is turning into disloyalty to the (Sunni) ruling family. Where such hints have been detected, they have been promptly either imprisoned or deported. Likewise illegal immigrants from Iran, arriving by boat under cover of darkness, have when caught, been promptly sent back. The existence of an underground, presumably Shiite, capable of mounting spectacular bomb attacks simultaneously in different parts of the city-state, must therefore have come as a severe shock. One response that is clearly called for is an overhaul of Kuwait's police and intelligence

services. Perhaps friendly powers with experience in dealing with terrorism - Britain in particular - could give some help.

Beyond this, the explosions in Kuwait remind us of the ever-present danger that the Iran-Iraq conflict may spread to the rest of the Gulf. There can be little doubt that the coupling of French with American targets has to do less with the role France is playing in Lebanon than with France's open partisanship on the side of Iraq, as well as her sponsorship of Iranian exile groups. Iran's most immediate fear, well publicised, is that Iraq will use French-supplied weapons to cut off Iran's oil exports through the Gulf (as Iran has long since done to Iraq's). Iran has threatened, should this happen, to see to it that no oil gets out of the Gulf from any source. This could be achieved, presumably, either by using Iranian airpower against oil installations in the Arab Gulf states or by blockading the Strait of Hormuz.

The present relative oil glut has made us a little blasé about such threats. Most industrial countries now have considerable reserve stocks of oil, and could not doubt weather a short interruption of Gulf supplies. But if the interruption were complete, and even assuming that non-Gulf producers increased their exports by four million barrels per day to make up part of the loss, it has been calculated there would be a shortfall of 4.8m barrels per day, equivalent to 11 or 12 per cent of present Free World demand - a much higher percentage than in the two previous oil crises of 1973 and 1979. Even if this had happened in 1982, when the oil-market was much more acutely overstocked than it is now, it would have sent the price of crude up to \$68 per barrel.

The threat posed by Iran is not to be taken lightly. The West has to be ready to meet it militarily if it comes to that. But the military scenario brings new and alarming risks with it. No diplomatic avenue for lowering tension in the area should be neglected. Things are not so bad, particularly in the Gulf, that they cannot still get a great deal worse.

## NGA action boost to other media

From Mr Derek Nathan  
Sir, I have been a devoted reader of *The Times* for many years and felt very deprived during the recent long period when it was not on sale.

Now, however, I have a television set equipped with Ceefax and also a video tape recorder (VTR), and somehow the prospect of prolonged action by the NGA does not worry me as much as it used to.

My situation is no doubt mirrored up and down the country, which boasts the highest ownership per head of VTRs in the world. It seems to me that the movement towards electronic information and opinion dissemination will be accelerated greatly should the NGA take national action. The electronic revolution is proceeding at a spanking pace without the additional boost that it would receive from this action.

I have been associated with the print trade for many years and politically I am left of centre. The NGA have my sympathy, but I think their strategy is disastrous.

Can the NGA leaders be so short sighted as to fail to realise that, whatever the merits of their case, a national strike at this point in the development of the media would knock the final support from under their precarious structure?

Yours faithfully,  
DEREK M. NATHAN,  
7 Cromford Way,  
New Malden,  
Surrey,  
December 9.

## Importance of Delhi

From Dr J. Elfenbein  
Sir, General Zia ul-Haq, like Martin King, has long had a dream - to sit down to tea with the Queen and thereby greatly enhance his own personal prestige as well as that of the military government in Pakistan which he heads.

Someone should explain to Messrs Smith et al (December 5) that, far from accelerating a return to democracy there, the readmission of Pakistan to the Commonwealth now would have the effect of setting a sort of seal on its present government and would certainly strengthen it. That may indeed be desirable, but it has nothing to do with democracy.

Smith et al also conveniently forget that it was Bhutto's government, whatever its merits or demerits without doubt the most popular and democratic government Pakistan has ever had, which chose voluntarily to leave the Commonwealth in 1973.

As for a plebiscite in Kashmir, that is precisely the issue which resolved Mrs Gandhi in 1981 to let it be known that she would veto any Pakistani application for reaccession to the Commonwealth.

You cannot have it both ways and Mr Smith and his friends must really begin to do some homework.

Yours faithfully,  
J. ELFENBEIN,  
Churchill College,  
Cambridge,  
December 5.

## MPs in the public eye

From Mr John Stokes, MP for Halesowen and Stourbridge (Conservative)

Sir, The article by Mr Austin Mitchell, MP, in today's *Times* (December 8) on televising the Commons ignores the feelings of many members in the House - quite possibly a majority if a vote was taken in a full House.

The entry of the camera into the Chamber would utterly ruin the atmosphere there. Instead of the cut and thrust of intimate debate members would be conscious that they were speaking to the nation at large.

Also, as television has to entertain, the cameras would be bound to seize on the prima donnas rather than the ordinary work of every day, and thus give a quite untrue picture of the whole.

Members would be tempted to speak more often and at greater length to make sure that their constituents saw they were at work.

Idiosyncrasies of manner or dress, male or female, would not go unnoticed. The prima donnas among us would play even more to the gallery. I believe television in the Commons could turn out to be a nightmare.

It would be quite different with the Lords - the measured tones of their speeches which already come over so well in broadcasting would be enhanced by the splendour and dignity of their Chamber. Furthermore they do not have any constituents to please.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN STOKES,  
House of Commons,  
December 8.

## Missile strategy

From Mr Christopher Meredith

Sir, Mr Brian Crozier's reply (December 1) to Mr David Watt's refreshingly realistic article, "The missile strategy that could misfire" (November 18) is mistaken or misleading in several important respects.

It is demonstrably untrue that Soviet SS20s "are capable of destroying all Nato targets in one single strike". With an accuracy estimated at 400 to 750 metres (depending on whether it is fired from fully prepared permanent sites or from makeshift sites to which it may be moved in an emergency) the SS20 is in no way a "first strike weapon" capable of destroying Nato missiles in their hardened silos, protected communication and command centres, or other key military targets. In this vital respect it is at least 10 years behind the new American missiles - with accuracies estimated to around 50 metres or better, cruise and Pershing 2 missiles do possess a first strike capability.

## Airbus pointer to future profit

From the President of the Society of British Aerospace Companies Ltd

Sir, Must we catch the Airbus, asks Lord Bruce-Gardyne in *The Times* last Wednesday (December 7) and then goes on to castigate the whole idea of so doing. The short answer to the question from those of us who want to see Britain's aerospace industry prosper is "Yes".

Britain and France can now challenge the US dominance in the western world. The industry's contribution to the country's balance of trade has been enormous - with exports in excess of £20bn over the last decade (at 1980 prices).

The Prime Minister has said "the importance of the British aerospace industry to our economy cannot be overestimated". She is right. Aerospace is a high technology, high value added, and manpower intensive industry. It is through the exploitation of high technology that Britain's hopes for the future lie.

Developing countries all over the world are rapidly moving into low technology fields to compete with us in our traditional markets. Many countries which, until a few years ago, had no aerospace capability have begun to make rapid headway in this industry.

It is in the high technology sphere that Britain, France and the United States have established a marked superiority. Surely Lord Bruce-Gardyne cannot be suggesting that Britain should relinquish the lead which we now share, just when we have the opportunity to build on success and to press our advantage.

The A320 project provides us with such an opportunity. It bears no comparison to Concorde either in technological difficulty or in expense. The launch costs are spread over a number of years.

Airbus Industrie has produced two fine airliners - the A300 and the smaller A310. These aircraft have established a worldwide reputation

for reliability and are popular with the travelling public. Together they have challenged the United States industry's monopoly as the supplier of large civil aircraft, a monopoly now increasingly concentrated on the Boeing Company, which cannot be to the advantage of the airlines or of the travelling public.

The A320, an aircraft in the 150-seat class and smaller than the A300 and A310, is a natural step to broaden the company's product base. Some 4,000 airliners will be needed between now and 1995; the market should be dominated by Boeing and Airbus. The latter needs to sell only some 400 A320 aircraft to break even - this is not an impossible target.

Now is therefore the time for strong leadership. Britain's stake in Europe's Airbus is important, not only to British Aerospace PLC, but also to Rolls-Royce and to many aerospace equipment companies in the UK whose future - and therefore their ability to employ people - is dependent on the programme.

Do we invest in aerospace and high technology for the future? Or are we really to abandon our high technological heritage and the ability it gives us to increase our national wealth? Must we become dependent on the service industries alone?

A320 is a challenge which industry is prepared to take and in which we are prepared to invest. We need some Government support to launch the programme, but we are confident that this will ultimately pay a dividend to the taxpayer. Surely we - Government and industry together - must face this challenge.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER BATES, President,  
The Society of British Aerospace Companies Ltd,  
29 King Street,  
St James's SW1,  
December 12.

## Case for tax cuts

From Mrs Cynthia MacCobby

Sir, Tim Congdon argues ("Economic commentary", December 1) that as long as the Government takes 42 per cent of GDP, claims on resources necessary to produce this amount must be removed from the private sector. He believes that if this is not done openly and honestly by taxation it will be done covertly and dishonestly through inflation, since borrowing from the banking system by the Government leads to an increase in the money stock and hence, he alleges, inevitably to an increase in inflation.

This, by reducing the value of assets lent by the private sector to the Government, acts as a hidden tax. The only alternative, he asserts, is to drive up interest rates through sales of Government bonds; so "crowding out" private sector investment.

This may be true when the GDP represents the production possibility limit of resources, ie, when there is full employment and all resources are being used, so that Government claims have to be reduced if private sector claims are to be increased. But that GDP at present is at this level is an assumption made by Tim Congdon which he does not attempt to justify, despite the evidence of widespread unemployment of both human beings and machinery at the present time.

## Going it alone

From Group Captain P. W. Johnson

Sir, Mr Michael Heseltine, in his interview about cruise (feature, December 2), averred that "the important thing is what you do in the event of nuclear blackmail". You have, he believes, to "deter at any level of threat".

Mr Enoch Powell (article, December 3) writes that Britain has not yet come to terms with the modern facts of geopolitics. He quotes our two main treaties, the NATO and the European, which prevent us from perceiving the world from our own standpoint and not from that of others.

If we put these two reasonable premises together, we should start looking at the world from a purely British standpoint and defending ourselves from the level of threat we then saw. We should quickly discover that there is no perceivable threat to, or likelihood of nuclear blackmail of Britain as a separate entity, independent of the European and American commitments we now undertake.

Such a view would bring us naturally to consider an orientation of military non-alignment, outside the military confrontation of the two superpowers. Britain, no longer a great world power, but strongly defended in her own homeland, would then be reasonably safe from involvement in other people's quarrels.

This standpoint is a long way indeed from that of CND about which you were commenting in your leading article of December 5. It seems tragic indeed, however, that the deciding argument you mount against an armed neutrality "as applied by Sweden and Finland" is the implication that British society either could or would not undertake "the total commitment by every citizen to the nation's security" which you rightly say would be involved.

## Church and remarriage

From the Venerable Dr R. D. Daunton-Fear

Sir, May we ask why, in all the discussions about the remarriage of divorcees in the Church of England, has not greater consideration been given to granting decrees of nullity of marriage?

This would bring the Church of England in line with other ancient churches. It would also satisfy the conscience of many faithful clergy and laity. It would be more readily understood and allow for the Church's liturgy to be used.

It would not involve more elaborate ecclesiastical machinery than the present proposals.

Yours faithfully,  
R. D. DAUNTON-FEAR,  
Norwood, 22 Penwinick Road,  
St Austell,  
Cornwall,  
December 5.

## A matter of title

From Dr Geoffrey Marshall

Sir, The Chairman of the Social Science Research Council says (December 9) that readers of *The Times* may like to know that he is going to concentrate on getting on with his job after changing the name of the Council. I expect that readers of *The Times* will be much relieved. But they may well wonder what was stopping him and his colleagues from concentrating on getting on with their jobs without changing the name of the Council.

Since "Economic and Social Research Council" is an obvious solecism, and since there is no reason why the Social Science Research Council (or even the Privy Council) should dictate to social scientists what names or titles we use, let us simply ignore the council's faddish preferences and go on calling it the SSRC. There are more of us than them.

Yours faithfully,  
GEOFFREY MARSHALL,  
The Queen's College,  
Oxford,  
December 9.

## Archive service in uncertainty

From Mr H. Speak

Sir, I would like to add to the letter in your paper on December 6 expressing concern for the future of the Greater London Record Office, and yet undefined in the White Paper *Streamlining the Cities*.

In West Yorkshire the future of our archive service is less certain. In 1974 many people like myself, with a lifelong interest in local history and the preservation of local records, were pleased when the West Yorkshire Metropolitan County Council established a county archive service with good conservation facilities to supplement existing services started by some of the former county boroughs.

In 1982, on the initiative of the county council, the West Yorkshire Archive Service was set up. This is a joint service administered by a committee representing the county council and the five district councils. This service includes large collections of official records relating to the whole of the former West Riding, dating from the early seventeenth century. It also administers the fine collections of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society in Leeds, many of which are rich in medieval Yorkshire records.

Regular users of this service, like myself, would like to see this new joint service developed to deal with the large amount of rescue and other archive work waiting to be done in this county. The White Paper proposes that when the metropolitan county councils are abolished in 1986, archive powers will pass to the district councils, who are asked to cooperate to run archive services and see that historic collections are not broken up.

In our joint service in West Yorkshire we have the framework for this cooperation, but without the county council, which now pays for over half the cost of the service and for all development, the district councils may not be able to maintain or develop it. The creation of so many separate joint boards for other county services, such as police, each with the power to levy a separate rate, is going to increase the cost of these services.

I would call attention to the fact that the large amount of rescue and other archive work waiting to be done in this county. The White Paper proposes that when the metropolitan county councils are abolished in 1986, archive powers will pass to the district councils, who are asked to cooperate to run archive services and see that historic collections are not broken up.

Yours faithfully,  
H. SPEAK,  
483 Leeds Road,  
Leeds,  
West Yorkshire,  
December 9.

## Calke Abbey

From Mr M. S. Pearce

Sir, It does seem very shortsighted of the Government to persist in declining the generous offer of Mr Henry Harpur-Crewe to give Calke Abbey, and the land which supports it, to the nation.

Twenty years ago Mr Lewis Wallach offered The Grange, Northampton, to the nation and it was declined. In 1975 it was taken into guardianship by the Department of the Environment after the contents had been dispersed and the interiors destroyed.

Restoration of the remaining empty shell has just been completed by the department at a cost of some £600,000. Do we never learn?

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL PEARCE, Chairman,  
Association of Conservation Officers,  
c/o The Castle,  
Witchester,  
Hampshire,  
December 8.

## Church and remarriage

From the Venerable Dr R. D. Daunton-Fear

Sir, May we ask why, in all the discussions about the remarriage of divorcees in the Church of England, has not greater consideration been given to granting decrees of nullity of marriage?

This would bring the Church of England in line with other ancient churches. It would also satisfy the conscience of many faithful clergy and laity. It would be more readily understood and allow for the Church's liturgy to be used.

It would not involve more elaborate ecclesiastical machinery than the present proposals.

Yours faithfully,  
R. D. DAUNTON-FEAR,  
Norwood, 22 Penwinick Road,  
St Austell,  
Cornwall,  
December 5.

## A matter of title

From Dr Geoffrey Marshall

Sir, The Chairman of the Social Science Research Council says (December 9) that readers of *The Times* may like to know that he is going to concentrate on getting on with his job after changing the name of the Council. I expect that readers of *The Times* will be much relieved. But they may well wonder what was stopping him and his colleagues from concentrating on getting on with their jobs without changing the name of the Council.

Since "Economic and Social Research Council" is an obvious solecism, and since there is no reason why the Social Science Research Council (or even the Privy Council) should dictate to social scientists what names or titles we use, let us simply ignore the council's faddish preferences and go on calling it the SSRC. There are more of us than them.

Yours faithfully,  
GEOFFREY MARSHALL,  
The Queen's College,  
Oxford,  
December 9.

## GIFT HOUSE ON THE ROCK

Consultations between HMG and the Gibraltar Government on measures needed to support and sustain the Rock's economy with a closed dockyard and a closed frontier were concluded at the end of July. They were based upon detailed studies carried out on the spot and in depth by independent consultants funded by Britain. Two broad options emerged: the yard could either be handed over to the Gibraltar Government who would install a commercial operator to manage it, or it could stay under Ministry of Defence management, undertaking commercial work to pay for its retention. Under either option the yard would be available to the Nato navies for emergency repair work. Mrs Thatcher decided on the former for sound political, military and commercial reasons: the Gibraltar Government had hoped for the latter because it was less risky and would be more acceptable to the local unions (the majority of the work force belong to the TGWU). Nevertheless, the Gibraltar Government accepted the conversion package offered by HMG because its terms were both generous and sensible, and it knew its preferred solution was unacceptable in Whitehall.

The package is generous in that it will cost the British taxpayer more than £50m (Chatham and Portsmouth got nothing); and it is sensible because an extra year has been allowed for the conversion of the yard, and a three year refit programme of Royal Fleet Auxiliaries is to be provided to help the work force familiarize themselves with commercial work. The £50m is made up of £28m for modification of the yard's facilities and to underwrite losses for the first two years; £14m is for the RFA refit programme; and the rest will be spent on moving defence installations off two valuable sites in the city to help in the development of the Rock's

tourism industry. The money is, however, dependent upon the work force accepting commercial working practices without which the yard could not be successful in the fiercely competitive ship repair yard.

However, the local unions, aided and abetted by the TGWU in London, are refusing to accept commercial management and working practices. There are undoubted risks in trying to break into the ship-repair market when work shipping is in the doldrums at the Gibraltar yard has a great deal going for it. It is compact and economic to operate; it lies at the intersection of the world's north-south and east-west shipping lanes and at the entrance to the Mediterranean; and its work force is highly skilled and more disciplined than its local competitors. Given good management, a work force determined to achieve a competitive edge and naval work to cushion the transitional period, the risks are not judged by experts to be unreasonable. Indeed, the thing could be fortuitously advantageous. Work on conversion of the yard should go a long way in mopping up the current unemployment among construction workers in Gibraltar; and it should be completed just as the expeditious turn in the world's economy improves the ship-repair market.

Those who are advising the Gibraltar Trade Council to resist commercialization, and the members of that Council should ask themselves whether they are being responsible. Under Mrs Thatcher the decision to close the dockyard was certainly not reversed (the Gibraltar Government has done surprisingly well in a year's reprieve); and the intention of Royal Naval management is equally unlikely (it could destroy any possibility of the yard becoming commercially viable in the longer term). Unfortunately diversification of the Rock's

economy into other fields, like tourism, which have been closely studied, is impracticable as long as the frontier remains closed to tourists and vehicles. The hard fact is that there is no viable alternative. The five year conversion programme does reduce the risks of commercialization and provides opportunities for the Gibraltarians which would not have been nearly so generous if the frontier had been fully open. They would have been treated no differently from other British naval dockyard towns.

The Gibraltar dockyard package honours Britain's commitment to sustain and support the Rock's economy for as long as Spanish restrictions last. It is the Gibraltarians' right to accept or reject it, but it must be said that much of the support that Gibraltar has always enjoyed on both sides of the House and in the country could evaporate if the package founders upon union intransigence. The Trades Council are making a grave mistake if they are pinning their hopes upon the strategic importance of the yard to Britain and NATO: it is only a desirable and not a militarily vital asset to the West. Spanish and Portuguese yards would be delighted to see a potential competitor eliminated.

Sir Joshua Hassan's Government completes its four year term of office after Christmas. A general election is due between February and May 1984. The sooner the issue is put before the people of Gibraltar the better. The Rock is their home and it is up to them to decide between their Government's acceptance and the unions' rejection of the package. The British Government would, however, be wise to set a time limit on its offer. Some indication of the impatience will be evident today with the announcement of the first steps towards the dockyards closure. The local unions, and the TGWU, cannot say they have not been warned.

## Unacceptable face

From Dr E. Clifford-Jones

Sir, When I retired from my post as consultant in the NHS, I resolved not to write to papers, but I am now impelled to break this decision. I have been settled in this area for some three months after many years' residence in Devon.

As a Disraelian Tory, I find it odd that this Government should have

placed the Newcastle Council in the position of deciding between a rate rise of 40 per cent and already almost airborne alternatives cutting services by the loss of 1,300 jobs.

I have to tell you that the services here will run on little evidence of waste, and the steps are taken to keep the public informed.

Finally, as a stranger to the area, I

have discovered that the overall impression may be summed up with a word in little usage by this present Government: I mean, of course, compassion.

Yours faithfully,  
E. CLIFFORD-JONES,  
25 South Ridge,  
Brunton Park,  
Gosforth,  
Newcastle upon Tyne,  
December 9.





COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 12: The Queen, Colonel-in-Chief, this morning visited the Blues and Royals (Royal Horse Guards and 1st Dragoons) at Combermere Barracks, Windsor and received upon arrival by the Colonel (General Sir Desmond Fitzpatrick).

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 12: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, was present this evening at a Reception given by the Council of the Royal Warrant Holders Association at Marlborough Terrace, New Zealand House.

A memorial service for Keith Wickenden will be held at noon today at St. Margaret's, Westminster.

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Lionel Robinson will be held at St. George's Church, Hanover Square, W1, tomorrow at noon.

Birthdays today

The Aga Khan, 47; Lord Alexander of Potterhill, 78; Sir Terence Beckett, 60; the Hon Sir George Bell, 84; General Arnold Brown (Salvation Army), 70; Lord Bullock, 69; Mr Glen Bryan Shaw, 79; Dr Arthur Cooke, 71; Sir John Dean, 64; Mr John Francombe, 31; Dr Douglas Lato, 70; Professor W. H. McCrea, 79; Mr John Piper, CH, 80; Mr Christopher Plummer, 54; Sir John Pope-Hennessy, 70; Sir Humphrey Prichard, 68; Mr George Schultz, 63; Professor G. D. Sims, 57; Major-General Sir David Thorne, 50; Sir Laurens van der Post, 77; General Sir Peter Whiteley, 63.

Duke takes another title
Award for the genial aristocrat

By John Young
Agriculture Correspondent
The Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, frequently described as Britain's largest landowner, will receive today the Countryside Commission and Country Landowners' Association annual joint award for the landowner who has done most to improve understanding between the urban and rural communities.



The Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry and part of the Boughton estate

A large, relaxed, genial man, the duke has been confined to a wheelchair since a hunting accident some years ago, but he remains active in public affairs and in charitable work, and aims to spend about four months a year in each of his three country houses.

Latest appointments
Mr Bruce Matthews was yesterday appointed managing director of News International plc, owners of The Times, The Sunday Times, The Sun and the News of the World.

Disability and Rehabilitation. He strongly defends the concept of hereditary great estates, claiming that they are the best way of ensuring the survival of agricultural tenancies and that they provide employment for thousands of people.

Luncheons
HM Government
Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon given at Carlton Gardens, yesterday in honour of the Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada, Mr Allan J. MacEachern.

Memorial service
Dr S. L. Simpson
Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs at a memorial service for Dr S. Leonard Simpson held at St James's Piccadilly, yesterday.

Meetings
Royal Over-Sea League
The Hon Peter Brooke, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Education and Science, was guest speaker yesterday evening at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Sea League at Over-Sea House, London.

Memorial service
Dr S. L. Simpson
Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs at a memorial service for Dr S. Leonard Simpson held at St James's Piccadilly, yesterday.

Meetings
Royal Astronomical Society
The 1983 George Darwin Lecture was delivered at the meeting of the Royal Astronomical Society in London on Friday, Professor K A Pounds of Leicester University spoke on "Exosat, Rosat and the future of X-ray astronomy".

Reception
Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
Sir Peter Mills, MP, Deputy chairman, was host at a reception held in the CPA (UK Branch) Rooms at Westminster yesterday for Commonwealth High Commissioners and Agents-General in conjunction with the annual Westminster Hall Carol singing attended by the speaker.

At home
Sussex House
The headmaster and staff of Sussex House will be at home to all past members of the school on Thursday, December 15, from 6.30-8.30pm.

Science report
Caterpillar fails as a weedkiller
By Hugh Clayton
The Cinnabar Moth is best known in the form of a striped caterpillar which browses quickly in large numbers on ragwort plants.

Fortcomings

Mr C. N. K. Azkin and Miss C. J. Vincent
The engagement is announced between Rupert, only son of the late Mr C. N. K. Azkin, of Rising Sun Cottage, Shoreham, Kent, and Catherine, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs L. D. Vincent, of Whiteacre, Godalming, Surrey.

Mr J. H. Garnier and Miss K. H. Puckle
The engagement is announced between James Hugh, eldest son of Colonel W. A. and the Hon Mrs Garnier, of College Farm, Thompson, Thetford, Norfolk, and Katherine Hale, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J. H. Puckle, of Foxton House, Foston, Cambridgeshire.

Mr V. J. S. Kinnross and Miss S. J. Hooper
The engagement is announced between Vyvyan James Stuart, younger son of the late James Kinnross and Mrs Pamela Kinnross, of Llandovery, British Virgin Islands, and Susan, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs J. P. R. Maxwell, of Bristol.

Mr J. P. R. Maxwell and Miss V. J. S. Kinnross
The engagement is announced between John Philip Barkie, only son of Mr and Mrs W. B. Maxwell, of Pine Ridge, 166, Malbone Road, Belfast, and Valerie Evelyn Jane, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs G. S. Neumann, of Duxford, Cambridgeshire.

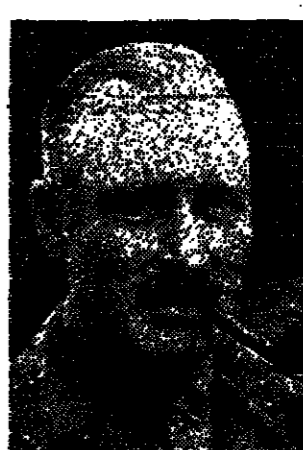
Mr F. T. Thurstield and Miss V. J. Beckett
The engagement is announced between Hilary M. M. and Mrs P. S. Thurstield, of Eastleach, Gloucestershire, and Victoria, daughter of Dr and Mrs P. H. T. Beckett of St Clements, Oxford.

Valiant for Truth
The Hon David Astor presented the 1983 Valiant for Truth Medal Award to Mrs E. P. Schumacher at the Press Club yesterday to mark the tenth anniversary of the publication of Small is Beautiful by the late Dr E. F. Schumacher.

OBITUARY

GEN SIR NEIL RITCHIE
Former 8th Army commander

General Sir Neil Ritchie, GBE, KCB, DSO, MC, who died in Canada on December 11, aged 86, will be remembered as the Commander of the 8th Army in the seven months desert campaign of 1941-42, which opened with the defeat of Rommel at Sidi Rezegh, and ended with the loss of Tobruk and the retreat to El Alamein. He will also be remembered by all who knew him for the remarkable professional come-back he made, after the setbacks he suffered in the Middle East, in the subsequent ten years of his Army career.



Ritchie was a man of strong character and resolute purpose, tall, handsome, vigorous, and of a sturdy, imperturbable temperament. He was brave, good-humoured, straight-forward and courteous, and had considerable charm of manner.

Neil Medwyn Ritchie was born on July 29 1897, the second son of Dugald Ritchie of Liss, Hampshire. He was educated at Lancing College and the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, from which he was commissioned in the Black Watch in 1914.

In the First World War he had an outstanding record of service as a regimental officer and adjutant on the Western Front, in Mesopotamia and in Palestine. Before his 19th birthday he won a temporary captaincy, he won the DSO when he was 20, and the military Cross when he was 21.

Between the wars he graduated at the Staff College, served for eight years in the general staff at the War Office and in India, and, in 1938, was transferred from the Black Watch to command a battalion of the King's Own Royal Regiment in operations against the Arabs in Palestine.

In 1940 he was appointed Brigadier General Staff to Sir Alan Brooke, then commanding the 2nd Army Corps in the BEF, who described him as "quite invaluable" during the withdrawal to Dunkirk, "always thinking ahead, always calm, never rattled, and with a sense of humour to relieve some of the gloomy situations".

On his return to England he served for a few months as Brigadier to Sir Claude Auchinleck in the Southern Command then at the end of 1940, he was promoted acting major-general and given command of the 5th Highland Division. He had been long with this division before he was sent to the Middle East to serve again on Auchinleck's staff, this time as deputy chief of staff.

Hardly had he settled down in his new post then, at the height of the Battle of Sidi Rezegh, Auchinleck removed Sir Alan Cunningham from the command of the 8th Army because "he had begun to think defensively", and Ritchie had never commanded even a brigade in action, and at the age of 44, was comparatively junior, junior indeed to his two Corps Commanders, Auchinleck replaced Ritchie's ack of qualifications for such high command, and therefore decided "to hold his hand", as it put it himself, and this he did throughout the campaign, thus sharing Ritchie's responsibility for both the successes and the failures which followed.

Ritchie's assignment was indeed formidable one. When he took over, the battle had almost been lost. The British armoured corps had been practically annihilated, the troops were in a state of indescribable confusion, and Rommel was threatening the rear of the 8th Army. The first step in restoring the situation had already been taken by Auchinleck himself, when he had flow up to Desert Headquarters the day before, and had countermanded Cunningham's proposal retreat.

Ritchie rose magnificently to the occasion. He attacked with vigour, and after a week's heavy fighting, Rommel decided to cut his losses and withdraw over 300 miles westwards, vacating the whole of Cyrenaica. The 8th Army's victor however was only a

tactical one, and the disasters which befell Ritchie in the next stage of the campaign were largely due to a faulty strategic appreciation of the situation.

Rommel halted at El Agheila and the 8th Army followed him up. Ritchie was now 400 miles from his railhead and, owing to supply difficulties, he could not maintain strong enough forces so far forward either to make an attack or resist one.

But he decided to stand. Rommel seeing the weakness of the British forces scattered over a vast area, launched a counter-attack, and drove the 8th Army back 250 miles to Gazala. After a pause of four months he attacked again. The battle swayed backwards and forwards over a wide area for some three weeks, most fiercely in the region that became known as "The Cauldron". Then Ritchie, having suffered severe losses, ordered a withdrawal to the Egyptian frontier.

Contrary to the plan drawn up before the battle, he decided to leave a garrison in Tobruk, Rommel attacked this so-called "fortress", and in three days captured it with immense booty and some 30,000 prisoners. Barely pausing to regain breath, Rommel crossed into Egypt and, a week later, arrived at El Alamein where, at last, he was held.

At this critical point Auchinleck decided to assume personal command of the 8th Army, and he sent Ritchie to Engad with the recommendation that he should be given command of a corps or a staff appointment. He wrote to Sir Alan Brooke, then CIGS, that "although sound and resolute, he is apt to be slow, and I fear the Army has to some extent lost confidence in him."

Brooke saw to it that he got another chance, feeling that he had been tested too high. He posted him back to a division, the 52nd Lowland, "to regain confidence in himself", and shortly afterwards to the 12th Army Corps which he commanded admirably in the invasion of Europe, taking an important part in the advance into Belgium, the fighting on the Scheldt and the Meuse, the clearing of South-west Holland, and the final advance to the Elbe.

After the war he was GOC-in-C Scottish Command for three years, and then, from 1947 to 1949, he was Commander-in-Chief, East Asia Land Forces, in which capacity he had to deal with the terrorist and communist disturbances in South East Asia.

His last appointment was as commander of the British Army Staff in Washington and military member of the Joint Services Mission, and, on its completion of the tenure of this post, he retired from the Army in 1951. He had been promoted General in 1946.

After his retirement Ritchie went to live in Canada where he had a successful business career as President of the Mercantile and General Insurance Company of Canada and director of a number of other companies.

He was created KBE in KCB in 1947 and was advanced to GBE in 1951. He was a Commander of the Order of Merit (USA), a Knight Commander of the Order of Orange Nassau, and had the French Legion of Honour and Croix de Guerre and the Polish medal of Virtuti Militari.

He married in 1937 Catherine, daughter of James Mimmis of Kingston, Ontario. They had one son and one daughter.

£1,000 Premium Bond prizewinners

Table listing names and numbers of £1,000 Premium Bond prizewinners, including names like ZAN 182101, 28AB 611362, etc.

Advertisement for Charm him with JANNEAU GRAND ARMAGNAC BR ANDY. Includes image of a bottle and text: "When his sang froid proves too cool... Too good to keep to yourself".

Advertisement for Caterpillar fails as a weedkiller. Includes text: "The Cinnabar Moth is best known in the form of a striped caterpillar which browses quickly in large numbers on ragwort plants." and "Why, the researchers wondered, did the unweaten plants produce large seeds if the smaller ones from weaten plants were equally capable of producing a new generation of ragwort?"

Advertisement for Sheraton Park Tower. Includes text: "Have you lunched at the Trianon yet? The Trianon at the Sheraton Park Tower is one of London's most elegant restaurants and our new lunch-time menu will impress you." and "The price is surprisingly modest: £12 for 3 courses, coffee, and unlimited wine." Includes Sheraton Park Tower logo.

Handwritten note: شكرا من الأصل



THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

GEC brings down less from the mountain

Lord Weinstock and Sir Kenneth Bond, the presiding pillars of GEC, can control many things, but they include neither interest rates, nor the foreign exchange value of sterling...

Profits from trading went up by £17m, a fair performance marred only by lower levels of deliveries of power-generation equipment...

This is doubly unfortunate: it proves, yet again, how far off beam even the most informed forecasts can turn out to be...

The half-year figures are down simply because income earned on GEC's fabulous "cash mountain" is £23m lower than at September 30 last year...

Not unreasonably, senior managers who have worked their insides out to produce good figures can feel bitter and twisted when mistaken City Cassandras seem to have more influence in the market than the results themselves.

The 1984 year-end figure will be nothing like that, but it should be better than the half-year figure might suggest.

GEC's pretax profits for the first half-year are down from £291m to £285m. Though the interim dividend is raised from a penny to 1.15p a share...

Looking at the game at half-time, GEC is one-nil down and probably heading for a draw. As usual it is tight-tipped about what, if anything, it might do with all that cash (£1,477m at the last count)...

Eagle Star penny bazaar

The auction of Eagle Star is in danger of becoming a farce - a fate that no company of any status deserves.

Both sides can play the same game, each jostling for position by raising their bids by 1p. That would be ludicrous.

The West German company Allianz Versicherungs, which has 30 per cent of Eagle Star and wanted to own 40 per cent, ought to recognize that it is not going to prevail over the rival bidder, BAT Industries.

BAT's merchant bank advisers, Lazard Brothers, intends to protest about Allianz's expected 661p a share bid in the strongest possible terms.

By sensibly withdrawing it would earn points, a huge profit on its Eagle Star shares and stand a fair chance if it came back with an offer for another British company.

There is growing pressure within the Allianz management board of the company to take its profit, with the "worker" members of the supervisory board...

That, however, is not a line that yet commends itself to the proud and determined Allianz chairman, Dr Wolfgang Schieren. The Allianz management board meets in Munich today to approve lifting its bid to 661p a share - just 1p more than the BAT offer.

The Takeover Panel yesterday told Morgan Grenfell that it expected a full offer document by the end of the week. Sensing that the action may end before the penny farce begins Eagle's share price yesterday dropped 15p to 697p.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Investment fund for Lancashire

Mr David Trippier, the minister for small businesses, has given his backing to a new community-based investment fund which will invest £500,000 in local firms in North-East Lancashire.

The Valleys of Enterprise Trust Fund, which is part of the Business Expansion Scheme, will be run by local businessmen who draw no salary for their work.

Charterhouse Group and Electra Risk Capital have linked up with a publicly-quoted company, Pineapple Dance Studios, for its first venture under the Business Expansion Scheme.

The Department of Trade has presented petitions for the compulsory winding up of Cavalier Insurance and Universal Guarantee Insurance Agency, after discovering that the two companies were not authorized to offer extended insurances to policyholders.

Xerox Corp. has agreed to acquire the privately-held investment banking firm Van Kampen Merritt for £150m (£105m) in cash, term and convertible notes, plus a contingent payment of up to \$68m based on earnings for the next three years.

Mr John Elliott, an Australian entrepreneur, yesterday raised a toast in Foster's lager after his company gained control of the brewers of Australia's most famous beer in the country's largest takeover deal.

Mr Elliott, managing director of Elders DLI, said his company now holds more than 50 per cent of Carlton and United Breweries after spending more than \$4480m.

Property groups back in £300m merger talks

By Jonathan Clare

The £300m merger of Slough Estates, Allnatt London Properties and Guildhall Property is back on after a surprise announcement yesterday that the three companies were talking again.

Talks between the three property companies were called off just over two weeks ago. Allnatt and Guildhall, which are run by the same principal shareholders and directors, are believed to have decided to reapproach Slough and accept its terms for the merger rather than stick to the higher price they had originally demanded.

Both Allnatt and Guildhall asked for their shares to be suspended, but Slough did not, which strengthened the belief that the other two had reapproached Slough. However, Slough was adamant yesterday that the deal would be a merger and not a takeover.

A straightforward merger would be advantageous to Slough because it would reduce the discount to net assets at which its shares trade.

Mr Godfrey Messervy, chairman of Lucas Industries, told yesterday's annual meeting that the company must continue to shed labour this year if it is to remain competitive. In 1982, the group reduced its British workforce by nearly 40,000 to 45,500.

Brazil's Planning Minister, Senhor Antonio Delfim Netto, is on a tour of the Middle East, urging bankers to join the \$6.5 billion (£4.3m) new money loan to his country.

He left Bahrain yesterday after a visit to the United Arab Emirates, and was thought to be heading for Jeddah. After Saudi Arabia, where he is due to meet senior ministers and central bank officials, he is likely to visit Kuwait.

The Middle East is the only region, outside Latin America, that is still showing substantial resistance to new lending.

New York banker who is coordinating the loan arrangements said yesterday: "We are looking for another \$100m to there, having so far managed to



Antonio Delfim Netto: Plea to bankers. "Every dollar is important at this stage, given that many of the commitments from elsewhere in the world are continuing...

Pound falls to record low as dollar's surge continues

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent, and Bailey Morris, Washington

Sterling fell further against the dollar yesterday as the United States currency forged ahead again in the foreign exchange markets.

The pound remained fairly firm against other currencies, which also suffered from the apparently insatiable demand for dollars. At one point, sterling hit \$1.4285 before recovering slightly, but finished the day at \$1.4310, a record closing low and down 45 points from Friday.

Its trade-weighted value was only 0.1 lower on the day as 82.5 as it closed a shade firmer against the French franc but slightly easier against the German mark and the yen.

Foreign exchange markets reacted early in the day to the bombing in Kuwait by pushing the dollar ahead. The continuing worries about the United States budget deficit, the rapid

recovery in the economy and the impact these could have on American interest rates also lent support to the dollar, which broke new ground against both the mark and French franc.

Intervention by the German central bank as the dollar tested DM 2.7550 helped to stem its surge during the morning, but it still closed in London over 1/2 pence higher at DM 2.7540.

One dealer said yesterday: "It's difficult to see anything happening between now and the end of December which will weaken the dollar."

Another added: "Whichever way you turn it's very difficult to sell the dollar."

Although central bankers appear concerned about the continuing strength of the dollar, there is no sign that concerted intervention on the foreign exchanges is planned to try to prevent it rising.

Meanwhile, a Republican from Kansas openly defied the Reagan Administration yesterday by holding a series of Congressional hearings designed to focus national attention on the soaring budget deficits he fears will destroy the US recovery.

The three days of special hearings before Mr Robert Dole's Finance Committee opened as analysts predicted the dollar would continue to surge, largely because of the huge budget deficit which are fueling high interest rates.

White House officials had urged Mr Dole to put off the hearings until next year when the Administration will unveil its 1985 budget, which reportedly projects a deficit even higher than has been expected.

Privately, some of Mr Reagan's closest advisors have admitted that they now regard

the rising deficit of \$200 billion and more as Mr Reagan's economic Achilles' heel. The White House strategy has been to blame the deficits on free-spending Democrats in Congress.

But the strategy has begun to backfire as the national debate over the deficit grows more intense and powerful Republicans like Mr Dole insist on forcing the Administration to share the blame.

Mr Dole had urged the President to put aside party differences and approve a programme of modest tax increases and additional spending cuts before Congress recessed on 18 November for the year.

But Mr Reagan remained firm in his opposition to tax increases and restated his belief that the deficit problem will be cured by a stronger-than-expected recovery.

Grim forecast on UK oil income

By Jonathan Davis, Financial Correspondent

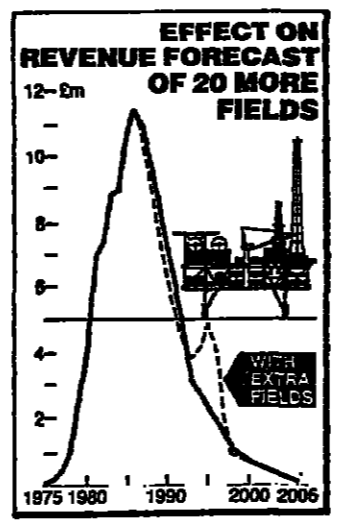
A savage decline in the Government's North Sea oil revenues in the 1990s looks inevitable, according to a critical report on oil taxation policy published yesterday by the independent Institute of Fiscal Studies.

If oil prices rise in line with inflation for the rest of this century, the Government's income from all commercial fields in the North Sea will decline from a peak of £1,000m in 1987 to less than £1,000m in the year 2000, the institute calculates.

This compares with the £8,000m to £9,000m that the Government will receive this financial year, and it reflects the sharp fall in output from the prolific early discoveries in the North Sea which had always been expected from 1990 onwards.

The institute adds that even big rises in oil prices or a sudden spate of new field developments is unlikely to have much effect on the steady revenue decline.

The study estimates that oil prices would have to rise in real



terms by 6 per cent a year - or by 51 per cent over the next seven years - if revenues were to be maintained above £10,000m a year until 1990.

To keep revenues at this level until 1994 would require prices to increase annually at more than 9 per cent above the rate of inflation. So they would have to double in real terms over the next 11 years.

Such increases would give a

powerful boost to the development of new fields but they are extremely unlikely and would, in any case, cause such damage to the economy that they would outweigh the Government's need for revenues, according to authors, Mr Mike Devereux and Mr Nick Morris, research officers at the institute.

Because future fields will be much smaller and more economically marginal than the original discoveries, even the development of 20 new fields would have only a marginal impact on Government revenues this century.

The institute supports this gloomy prognosis with some criticisms of the way in which oil taxation has developed in this country. It says that the system has hit small marginal fields much harder than the more profitable developments.

The report proposes that the present system should be replaced by a simple system based on profitability and cash flow, rather than revenues.

North Sea Oil Taxation, by M. P. Devereux and C. N. Morris, Institute of Fiscal Studies, Woodhead Faulkner (Publishers) Ltd, Cambridge. Price £6.

Amex faces profit fall of \$50m

By Philip Robinson

Net profits of American Express will fall by about \$50m (£35m) to \$531m this year, making it the first profits drop for a decade. It follows a \$230m injection of cash into its property liability insurance arm, Fireman's Fund.

A shake-up of top management at the Fireman's Fund was also announced last night.

American Express is one of the world's largest travel and financial services groups. It takes in international banking services, insurance, investment advice and the famous charge card used by 15 million holders.

Increased and higher claims mean that its Fireman's Fund subsidiary will make a loss in the final quarter of the year, although it will be profitable for the year as a whole.

In New York, American Express share price hit a low for the year of \$28 3/4 per share. The price has come down this year from almost \$50 a share.

The problems have been caused by additional reserves being needed for meeting claims on workers' compensation and property liability.

Last October American Express reported a less than 11 per cent increase in third-quarter earnings as a result of a 25 per cent drop in the earnings of its insurance subsidiary.

Earlier this month it announced 10 per cent job cuts among 13,000 workers at Fireman's Fund. The group said 300 jobs in the property liability operations were being cut immediately and a further 1,200 jobs would go next year. In the third-quarter Fireman's Fund earnings fell to \$46m.

As a result, net income for American Express are expected to fall sharply from \$581m.

Last month, American Express was poised to make one of the world's largest corporate takeovers, offering its stock in a \$1 billion deal for the Allegheny Corporation. It was called off just a month after the first announcement.

In London, Amex has just paid £28m for Peninsular House in Monument Street.

RMC puts £20m into expansion

By Jeremy Warner

RMC Group, Britain's biggest ready-mixed concrete concern, is spending about £20m on acquisitions in France, the US and Britain.

The takeovers will provide a source of raw materials for the group's businesses in Britain and France and extend its American interests.

The stock market approved - and marked the shares up 8p to 397p yesterday despite the placing of 3.94 million shares to help pay for the purchases.

RMC is paying DM50m (£12.85m) to Rheinisch-Westfälische Kalkwerke of West Germany for a 65 per cent interest in its aggregates offshoot in France.

RMC already has 49 per cent of the West German parent which has been rationalizing its interest through sale and closure to concentrate on its original limestone extraction business.

The French company lost money last year and most of this year. But it is expected to make a net profit next year.

RMC is also paying \$9.7m (£6.7m) for a 75 per cent interest in Metromont Materials Corporation in South Carolina.

Metromont, which is profitable, operates 12 ready-mixed concrete plants, seven concrete block plants and one concrete pipe plant.

Meanwhile, in Britain the group is paying £1.84m for farm land adjacent to its existing quarry at Hatfield in Hertfordshire.

Planning permission has been granted to develop the land for its sand and gravel deposits. RMC appears to have secured its new reserves at Hatfield cheaply compared with the price that Tarmac has been paying.

Lloyds buys part of rescued bank

By Our Banking Correspondent

Lloyds Bank is expanding in Germany by buying part of Schroeder, Munchmeyer, Hengst and Co. (SMH), the private German bank which was rescued last month, for an undisclosed sum.

Lloyds is buying about DM1.4 billion (£355m) of assets under the deal, comprising parts of SMH's commercial banking business and all its investment banking activities.

Excluded from the deal are any of SMH's loans to IBH, the huge building machinery group or Wibau, a machinery company in which IBH has a stake.

It was these loans, estimated at about DM900m, which precipitated the rescue of SMH by a group of West German banks at the beginning of last month.

The West German banks are believed to have extended about

Dow recovers early losses

New York (AP Dow-Jones) - Stocks were mostly lower in early trading but some losses were reduced.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down about two points recovering from an early drop of more than 3%.

Declines held a 705-to-670 edge over advances in moderately active trading.

Mr Michael Metz, vice president of Oppenheimer & Co. said: "The stock market is behaving fairly well considering the interest rate background. It can't attract much new money now because of the high interest rates."

International Business Machines was up 1 1/2 to 122 1/2; General Motors up 1/2 to 75 1/2; Eastman Kodak up 3/4 to 74 1/2; Val up 1/4 to 35 1/2; Norfolk Southern up 3/4 to 63 1/2.

US fears hit index

The equity market's record-breaking run showed signs of running out of steam yesterday as the long three-week Christmas account got underway.

Opening on a firm note the FT Index continued to scale new heights, rising 3.4, at one stage, before closing 3.4 down at 753.7.

Fears of higher US interest rates and a disappointing start to trading on Wall Street affected sentiment with the latest bumper set of retail sales making little impression.

Dealers fear that now the festivities are under way turnover will continue to decline and prices will now be left to drift.

Market report, page 16

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 753.7 down 3.4 FT Gilts: 82.51 down 0.26 FT All Share: 463.85 down 1.48

Bargains: 21.030 Datastream USM Leaders Index: 142.85 New York: Dow Jones Average: (latest) 1258.33 down 1.73

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 9,442.38 down 6.52 Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 856.74 down 1.65

Amsterdam: 156.0 down 0.1 Sydney: AO Index 743.8 up 8.0 Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1016.3 up 2.0 Brussels: General Index 131.63 up 0.71

Paris: CAC Index 151.5 up 0.9 Zurich: SKA General 306.80 up 0.30

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling \$1.4310 down 45pts Index 82.5 up 0.1 DM 3.9425 up 0.0050 FF 12.0050 up 0.0125 Yen 338.75 down 0.75

Dollar Index 130.4 up 0.2 DM 2.7540 up 0.0053

NEW YORK LATEST Sterling \$1.4285 Dollar DM 2.7525

INTERNATIONAL ECU: 0.673129 SDR: 0.725922

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates: Bank base rates 9 Finance houses base rate 9% Discount market loans 9% 3 month interbank 9/2-9/8

Euro-currency rates: 3 month dollar 10 1/4-10 1/8 3 month DM 8 1/4-8 1/8 3 month Fr F12 1/4-12 1/8

US rates: Bank prime rate 11.00 Fed funds 9/2 Treasury long bond 100% 100%

EGG: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period November 2 to December 8, 1983 inclusive: 9.350 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce): am \$390.90 pm \$391.25 close \$391.25-392 (2273.50-274)

New York (close): \$391.25 Kruggerand (per coin): \$403.50-405 (2282.25-283.25) Sovereigns (new): \$91.50-92.50 (E64-64.75) \*Excludes VAT

Whitecroft

We acquired the London-based builders merchants group, M. Wiseport Ltd in October 1983. This acquisition will be of considerable benefit to the building supplies division, providing better access to the more buoyant markets in the south-east of the country, and is expected to make profits of at least £700,000 per annum.

The lighting companies made further progress, with a significant profit contribution from Simplex Lighting Ltd which was acquired a year ago.

In property development, we expect to benefit shortly from the first major transactions in our commercial development programme.

The Whitecroft group is more firmly based to generate growth than for many years and this will be reflected in the outcome for the year as a whole.

Table with 4 columns: Interim results, Half year ended 30 September 1983, Half year ended 30 September 1982, Year ended 31 March 1983. Rows include Turnover, Profit before taxation, Earnings per share, Dividends per share.

Whitecroft plc

Textiles, building supplies, lighting, property development

A copy of the interim report may be obtained from: The Secretary Whitecroft plc, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5BX



Ronson raises £15m

Mr Gerald Ronson has decided to cash in some of the big profits he made from his abortive bid for the UDS Group this year. Yesterday he ordered the broking firm Hoare Govett to place 6 million shares in Hanson Trust at 255p with various institutions - 10p below the current market price.

The placing is expected to raise about £15m for Mr Ronson's Heron Corporation, which was part of the Bassishaw consortium which failed to top the £260m bid from Lord Hanson's Hanson Trust.

Mr Ronson received 15 million shares in Hanson Trust for his 10 per cent stake in UDS. He bought at different levels before and during the hotly contested bid for the department store group.

Heron is still presumed to own a further 9 million shares in Hanson, worth an estimated £23m. Last night, Mr Ronson was unavailable for comment, and it was unclear whether any further share sales were planned. Hanson ended the day 7p lower at 265p.

Heron recently bought a small stake in Barmah, leading to speculation that a full bid was on the way.

earlier in the day at a new peak, closed 3.4 down at 753.7. The threat of higher US interest rates meant another bad day for the pound on the foreign exchange markets, where it lost 45 points to close at an all time low of \$1.4310. This meant another bout of nervous selling in gilts, where falls of about 50p were reported at the longer end of the market, while in shorts the losses were restricted to 25p.

In blue chips, BTR continued to meet renewed support climbing 13p to a new high of 43p. American investors are reported to have taken a shine to the shares after its successful bid for Thomas Tilling this year.

Generally, prices closed below their best levels of the day. Allied-Lyons slipped 2p to 145p. BIC 2p to 238p. Baccam 3p to 315p. Bowater 1p to 240p. GKN 1p to 173p. Hawker Siddeley 2p to 350p and Tharm EMI 7p to 67p.

Shares of UBM Group, the builders merchant, climbed 4p to 126p after Saturday's article in the Times suggesting the group might soon be the target of another bid from a third party. There is speculation that Norcross, which failed in its £73m bid to win control of the

Shares of UBM Group, the builders merchant, climbed 4p to 126p after Saturday's article in the Times suggesting the group might soon be the target of another bid from a third party. There is speculation that Norcross, which failed in its £73m bid to win control of the

Shares of UBM Group, the builders merchant, climbed 4p to 126p after Saturday's article in the Times suggesting the group might soon be the target of another bid from a third party. There is speculation that Norcross, which failed in its £73m bid to win control of the

new high of 154p. But the company said it never comments on market rumours. Hanson Trust has been tipped as a likely suitor.

There was speculative support for the big banks. Bank of Scotland rose 13p to 695p, after 700p, while among the merchant banks Hill Samuel was up to a new high of 343p on hopes of a bid from the US.

Shares of Comet Group were in fine form yesterday recovering most of an early 5p fall in ex-div form to close a net 2p lower at 306p.

Over on the Over-the-Counter market licensed dealers Granville are due to start trading in shares of Minihouse, the Dutch group supplying computer and information services.

This is the first European security to be traded on the OTC market and follows offer by tender at a minimum price of 250p. This figure was exceeded when 800,000 shares, about 30 per cent of the 27 million shares in issue were placed by Granville with United Kingdom institutions at a sinking price of 275p.

BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY BELL'S

BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY BELL'S

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for BRITISH FUNDS and SHORTS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for MEDIUMS and LONGS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for I-N and COMMINGLED AND FOREIGN.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for LOCAL AUTHORITIES and DOLLAR STOCKS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for BANKS AND DISCOUNTS and BANS AND DISCOUNTS.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Includes sections for A-B and COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

كندا من الأصل

Dobson's Scotch Whisky advertisement with large text and logo.







People/Bernard Panton of Telecomputing

Free beer from a software gamble

By Roger Woolnough
In the places where computer users gather, the talk is often of the applications backlog. There are more people with a need for computing than the data-processing departments can handle...



A home PC Christmas in Japan

The attempt to achieve compatibility between home computers look a step forward at the Japan Personal Computer Show in Osaka, which machines using the MSX operating system were shown by nine manufacturers...

decisions in line with market demand. One of the country's largest hotel groups, Ladbrokes, which offers specialist weekend packages for bird watchers, raccoons and steam enthusiasts is moving into modern technology in the New Year...

Software galore will be demonstrated, puzzles, games, home utilities and educational packages. A new information package for the Commodore 64 machine will be shown by Precision Software...

THE TIMES National Computer Competition

Early in the New Year, following the success of The Times Classroom Computer Competition, which has attracted thousands of entries, Computer Horizons will be launching a national competition which will be open to all...

Mark and Julian win the eleventh competition

Two boys, aged 17 and 11 years, are the winners of The Times Classroom Computer eleventh Competition. They are Mark Inskip of Blythe Bridge High School, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent and Julian Foad of Farnham Common Middle School, Farnham Common, Bucks.



JULIAN FOAD (above) has had a Spectrum since last Christmas, and is now working on a computerised control system for his model train layout. He has also written the inevitable games. His latest is a skiing game, Slalom. His school has one RML machine, which was bought by the PTA...



MARK INSKIP (right) has recently upgraded to a Lynx 48K machine from a ZX81, on which he learnt Basic and Machine Code programming. He has a computer studies 'O' level, and hopes to study electrical or computer Engineering when he leaves school...

Women lagging behind the men

The UK lags about 18 months behind the US in the use of application of new products for data processing but the gap in terms of computer jobs may be bigger.

A recent extensive survey of US software workers shows where the UK industry should be in about two years' time. One of the most important discoveries of the survey, which is partly mirrored in similar surveys in the UK, is that job satisfaction has little to do with pay levels.

But, at the same time, the survey shows that when all the factors of education and position within the hierarchies of software workers are taken into account women will get only 59% of the pay men get.

The picture of the typical software worker that emerges is that he is male, aged around 32, white and had 16 years in school. The average salary for all those software workers who do not have management responsibilities is \$26,300. Supervisors have a \$32,000 average, middle managers \$34,000 and upper level managers on the software side \$62,000.

The job prospects in software work has most completely bypassed America's large black population, the investigators report, while the racial minority that is most highly represented in the small proportion of minorities is Chinese.

JOB SCENE Richard Sharpe

The research has been undertaken by Dr Philip Kraft, professor of sociology at the State University of New York, and Steven Duboff, study director at the Centre for Survey Research, University of Massachusetts.

In their report on the survey findings, Kraft and Duboff state: "Our study confirms a widely-held perception that women have established a significant presence on software workforces: 24% of the software workforce is female... Software jobs promise to remain open to women. About equal numbers of women and men entered the field in the two years immediately preceding our study, 1980-1981."

The discrepancies between the levels of pay for the amount of managerial content to the job undermines an important conventional wisdom in the industry. "In spite of the talk about the financial rewards available to scarce technical specialists in software work, as in the rest of the corporate world, the rewards go to managers, not to technicians, engineers or scientists."

"With respect to gender, if generalists are rewarded with higher pay than specialists, then the generalists tend to be men while the specialists tend to be women. In programming, we have not found any evidence of a strong relationship between technical skill and high pay."

Despite these discrepancies, job satisfaction is high. The Council for Educational Technology has been keenly interested in interactive video and commissioned John Duke's state-of-the-art report, published in July. Welcoming the Thorn EMI experiment, Vincent Thompson, of CET, said: "We are delighted to see a manufacturer taking the needs of education seriously and welcome the use of an independent evaluation team."

In addition to CET, it seems likely that the DoI will be watching closely. The project is in three phases. Phase One began last week when the teachers were introduced to the equipment and took it home to experiment with. Then they will draw up plans for its integration into their normal curriculum practical, giving a rationale for their decisions.

This will form the basis of a "negotiated agreement to proceed" with the directors of the project. Procedures for systematic monitoring and final evaluation procedures will be included in the plans for the next stage.

Under phase two, for around two months early next year, teachers will have the equipment in their schools and use it in line with their plans. The NELP/SEH project team will visit the schools from time to time to observe and discuss its uses with the teachers.

New world of the video goodies

By Jacquetta Megarry
A new British videodisc system from Thorn EMI Videodisc is presented to the EPIC third annual Interactive Technology Briefing by Peter Morley, its programme director. Far away from the high technology bustle of the conference, five primary teachers were being introduced to the VHD machines they are about to use in their classrooms by Colin Mabley of the School of Education and Humanities at North London Polytechnic.

He is conducting an independent evaluation of some videodisc material which was lent, along with five VHD players, by Thorn EMI who are anxious to find out how teachers and pupils react to the material. Peter Morley is a well-known maker of award-winning documentary programmes, and was given the OBE for services to broadcasting. The discs contain programmes from his splendid "Start Here: Adventures into Science" series. Although these were developed for videodisc, they were also transmitted in conventional "linear" form by Channel Four at 4.30 pm.

Audience reaction from parents, children and teachers - was enthusiastic. Very little is known about what makes good interactive video, however, and Thorn EMI looks on the materials as experimental. The free loan of the equipment and disc seems motivated more by professional interest than any commercial or marketing expectation.

The level of interaction built into the programmes is comparatively modest, a reference section provides the equivalent of a random-access animated "visual encyclopedia. However, using the optional computer interface (E95) it should be possible to control the disc through the Cepronics interface using any suitable micro-computer and simple BASIC

print statements. Two of the schools have BBC Microcomputers, and although certain refinements like superimposing computer text and graphics on to video pictures would require a special chip which is not yet available, the possibilities stemming from this hardware combination are very wide. Thorn EMI has also announced the AHD system with four digital channels which can store many combinations of computer data, still pictures or sound. VHD and AHD can be combined on a single disc, and the functions are available on the same player. There are immense possibilities in such a flexible system.

However, the real barrier to progress in educational interactive video has hitherto not been restriction in hardware capability so much as a total absence of suitable discs to experiment with. This results from the twin barriers of the costs of designing

and producing video material suitable for interactive use, and also the cost and commitment to a particular company involved in a disc mastering and pressing. In the VHD system, which is cheaper than most, disc mastering cost £1,750 per 60-minute disc excluding video production and prior editing; pressing is £23 per disc at the minimum level of 10 discs. Discs are incompatible with optical discs like LaserVision, though the VHD system has the advantage that it can cope with both UK and US colour video standards (PAL and NTSC). The VHD players cost £395 each.

The five junior schools are in various parts of inner and outer London and have been chosen to give a spread. Teachers have been recruited individually, including two head teachers, two class teachers and one peripatetic teacher. The programmes on the disc are "Electric Universe", "Fantastic Power of Air" and "Air at Work" (25 minutes each).

There is also a longer natural science documentary called "Mysteries of the Great Whales". The programmes are aimed at 9 to 11-year-olds, and the teachers will have considerable latitude in deciding how to use them.

The project is in three phases. Phase One began last week when the teachers were introduced to the equipment and took it home to experiment with. Then they will draw up plans for its integration into their normal curriculum practical, giving a rationale for their decisions.

This will form the basis of a "negotiated agreement to proceed" with the directors of the project. Procedures for systematic monitoring and final evaluation procedures will be included in the plans for the next stage.

Under phase two, for around two months early next year, teachers will have the equipment in their schools and use it in line with their plans. The NELP/SEH project team will visit the schools from time to time to observe and discuss its uses with the teachers.

PROGRAMMERS SYSTEMS ANALYSTS FREE LIST... CHOICE COMPUTER RECRUITMENT... St George's Hospital UNIVERSITY OF LONDON APPLICATIONS PROGRAMMER

NEC PERSONAL COMPUTERS advertisement featuring images of PC-8000, PC-8001, and PC-8002 series computers, along with a list of NEC dealers across the UK.

Computer Appointments advertisement for 'TRAIN THE TRAINER' M.S.C. Grant Approved, and EDCEL ELECTRONICS EXPORT SALES MANAGER UPS SYSTEMS advertisement.

Handwritten Arabic text: مكتبة من الأصيل



Instant research from computerized Hansard

# Short cuts at the Commons

News that the text of the House of Commons Hansard is now stored on computer (*The Times*, December 8) will be very welcome to those who daily pore through Hansard looking for items relating to particular topics of interest.



Frank Brown

Instead of hours of tedious painstaking research, the computer can do the searching for them in a matter of seconds at the press of a few keys on the terminal keyboard.

The new service is being offered by Scienc, the computer services company owned by ICP, as part of the external Polis (Parliamentary On-Line Information System) service Scienc runs on behalf of the House of Commons services committee.

Polis is a computerized information-retrieval system which provides users with index details on any subject covered in parliamentary papers, including Hansard, on-line.

The system was developed by Scienc for the Commons' Library to enable the library to provide a rapid service for helping MPs find information among the plethora of publications produced as a result of parliamentary business. It was described in *Computer Horizons* on February 8.

The new service enables terminal users to key in Polis search words relating to the topics they are interested in, obtain a list of index references where the topics are mentioned in the Hansard text, and then display the appropriate text for each reference.

The text stored in the database is up to date as the publication of Hansard itself.

there being a day's delay between a given session and the Hansard report on that session being entered into the computer.

Coverage is confined to proceedings in the Chamber of the House of Commons, because at present these are the only proceedings at Westminster which are produced in computer-readable form. The Hansard text stored covers the present session of Parliament, ie, from June 22 this year.

Analysis of Polis enquiries has shown that the majority relate to the proceedings over the previous 12 months. Scienc therefore plans to extend the coverage of the new service back to the start of the last session of the last Parliament, ie, November, 1982.

There are no plans to go back further than this at present, because the demand for such information is likely to be small. Indeed, with the high cost of storing one session's proceedings (about 150 million characters of information) the company originally planned to restrict coverage to the current and previous sessions, and to discard Hansard reports more than twelve months old at the beginning of each new session.

The cost of storing data is falling, however, and with the possibility of low-cost methods of high volume data storage

becoming commercially available next year, the company is likely to retain stored Hansard information indefinitely.

The new service is unlikely to reduce the number of subscriptions to Hansard, because subscribers will still want to have copies in their libraries.

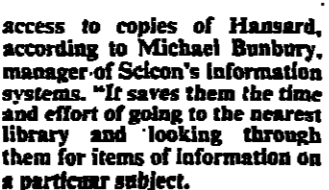
The service is mainly aimed at people who do not have ready

after it is published."

Another reason why the service is unlikely to affect subscriptions to Hansard is the cost of using the service, which is geared to periodic referencing, rather than large-scale text extraction.

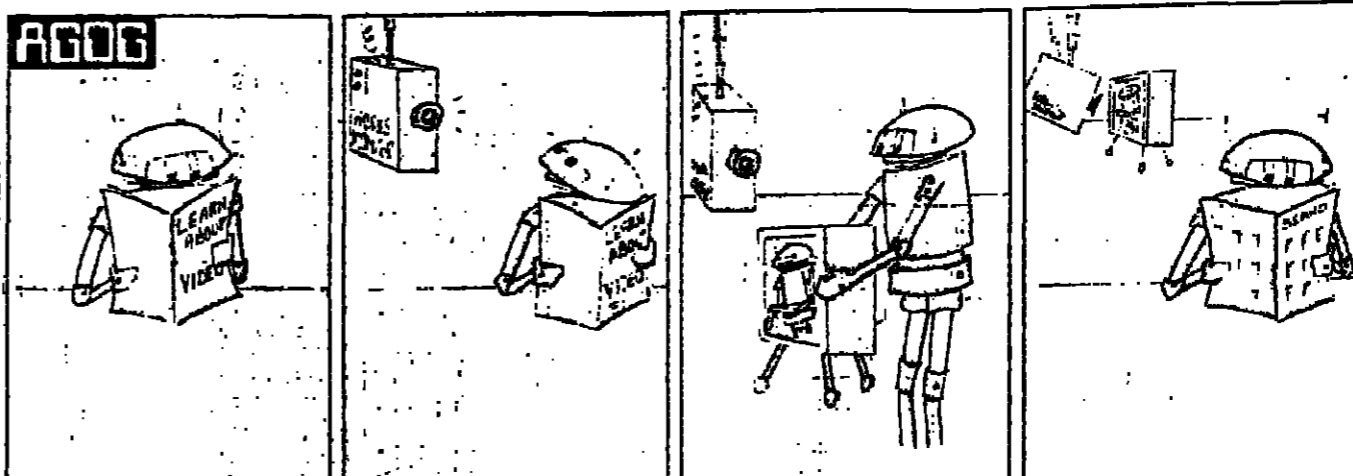
An annual subscription for Hansard daily by post costs £260. To access the Scienc's Hansard service involves becoming a Polis subscriber, which means an investment of up to £3,500 or more in terminal equipment if you do not have the equipment already, and paying a Polis access charge of £55 an hour (92p a minute) plus 20p per Hansard column accessed.

There is also the cost of the call to Scienc's computer in Milton Keynes. Access can be via telephone line, which can be at local call rates from London and Manchester as well as Milton Keynes, or via any British Telecom PSS data communications mode, of which there are about 20 throughout the country.



access to copies of Hansard, according to Michael Bumbury, manager of Scienc's information systems. "It saves them the time and effort of going to the nearest library and looking through them for items of information on a particular subject."

"It also enables them to be aware of events in Parliament of interest to them much earlier than they would do otherwise. Many organizations circulate a single copy through one or more departments. Thus, some readers may not see a particular issue until some days or weeks



# FO planning for electronic mail

By Maggie McLeung

If the Central Computer and Telecommunications Agency gives the go-ahead, the Foreign Office intends to install about 1,500 microcomputers in its UK departments over the next three years, and up to 200 larger systems overseas.

Most of the London-based machines (1,400) will form an internal electronic mail service, with the remaining 100 used to run a personal application for the combined FCO and ODA staff of 9,000. Overseas, the FCO plans to supply consulates with administrative and commercial systems, and has already started the operation in the US and West Germany.

Provisionally estimated to cost between £5-10 million, the FOLIOS (Foreign Office London Integrated Office System) electronic office network is the largest undertaking. It is envisaged as a distributed system

with information "nodes" based on micros with hard disk storage in 80 departments linked by an electronic mail service run on a central processor.

Individual workstations would have word processing, electronic filing, and computerized diaries and telephone directories, plus the ability to send messages anywhere in the network.

The FCO has to deal with large quantities of text, much of which arrives in telegrams, and all of it has to be handled quickly. Although external communications are advanced, the internal system is extremely slow, with documents taking up to three weeks to complete circulation, and FOLIOS is intended to speed up the flow and cut down the costs involved.

The FCO Communications

Division has a project for message handling and this will eventually be linked up to the FOLIOS, explained Mr Adrian Thorpe, head of Information Technology. "We aim to recoup the cost of the system over 10 years from savings on material costs, such as the production of about 10 million photocopies a year and the subsequent shredding of classified documents."

Although the FCO originally considered this type of system as early as 1969, no suitable computer equipment was then available, so the idea was shelved until 1981, when Prael was commissioned to carry out a strategic study. Prael reported the results in 1982 and the FCO is now following the recommendations made, working with software house Logica to produce a full study for submission to the CCTA in

January. Procurement is then likely to take place by the end of 1984, with systems being installed during 1985/6.

Mr Thorpe is working closely with the Civil Service unions, and says that so far they have shown a "positive attitude and great enthusiasm". The FCO has set up a dummy system to help clarify requirements expressed by three steering committees representing a wide cross-section of potential users, and a further 700 or so staff have visited the simulated electronic office voluntarily to give their comments.

A similar approach has been taken to the Staff Records System (known as STARS), and the Overseas Programme. The FCO personnel department is experimenting with ICL's Personnel 20 package running on DRS 20s, as a pilot exercise.

# All the fun of the micro stocking, maths included

With only another eleven shopping days to go, here are a few more suggestions for the micro-stocking, writes Geoffrey Ellis.

Two new Learn Basic packages for users of the Spectrum and Dragon contain a step-by-step book, supported by two cassettes with exercises and programs illustrating the points made in the book. From Logic 3, at £12.95.

Another name new to the games market is Mogul, division of the video company. It has launched 13 games for all of the popular home machines. They range from arcade games such as Creator's Revenge for the Commodore 64, Super Trek for the Oric, 64 and Vic 20, to a classic adventure pack taking more than six hours to solve.

There is a new database available for the Spectrum: Data Genie, comes from Audiogenic and it uses the "pop up" menu style of the more expensive Maggie system. This one sells at a modest £9.95.

Another goodie from Audiogenic is a graphics tablet for the Commodore 64. This consists of a tablet and stylus, disk-based

software and instruction manual. It enables the user to create high quality illustrations with commands like brush option, colour palette, and the built-in selection of pre-formed shapes. This comes at around £90.

New home user book titles include the Penguin Computing Book, a substantial paperback of 450 pages by Susan Curran and Ray Curnow, which starts with an historical look at the subject, goes on through various aspects of the technology, deals with the different languages, and ends with various applications. It sells at £5.95.

Other titles more useful in an instant way are those which carry listings and routines. Representative of these are Winning Games on the Vic 20, a selection of all the old faithfuls, distributed by John Wiley at £5.95.

If you feel that there should be more to micros than game playing, then *Maths+Computers=Fun*, by Geoffrey Childs at £6.25, should solve your dilemma. It is full of listings to help brighten up learning at a number of levels.

### UK events

Your Computer Christmas Fair, Wembley Conference Centre, December 15-18. Which Computer? Show, NEC, Birmingham, January 17-20. Northern Home Entertainment Show, Excelsior Hotel, Manchester Airport, January 18-22. Acorn Education Exhibition, Canterbury Hall, Westminster, January 25-27. Stratdex 84, Earls Court, London, January 28th - 1st January. Peripherals Suppliers, Cunard

International, January 31-Feb 2. Communications & Computer Systems Fair - CABLES, Pontin's, Prestatyn, Wales, February 2-4. LET 84, Heathrow Penta Hotel, February 13-15. International Home Computers, Heathrow Penta Hotel, February 13-15. Information Technology & Office Automation Exhibition and Conference, Barbican Centre, London EC1 February 21-24. OSM Only Conference, Hilton Hotel, London W1, March 7. Compiled by Personal Computer News.

**CONTROL DATA**

The world's leading manufacturer of computer peripherals.

Phone: 01-240 3400

**IBM PERSONAL COMPUTERS**

Available for rental or sale  
 \* Low cost purchase options  
 \* Full on site maintenance

Phone now for prices and more information

**HAMILTON RENTALS**

01-961 6777

MODERN AIR-CONDITIONED

**RESEARCH SALES AND APPLICATION BUILDING**

**20,000 SQ. FT.**

**TO LET/FOR SALE BASINGSTOKE**

**Hillier Parker**  
 77 Grosvenor Street  
 London W1A 2BT  
 01-629 7666

**PEARSONS**  
 27 London Street  
 Basingstoke RG21 1DL  
 0256-62222

"WE HAVEN'T A COMPLETE RANGE OF PERIPHERALS FOR ANY OF OUR COMPUTERS, SIR. POSSIBLY NEXT MONTH."

"PERIPHERALS? YES, COMMODORE HAVE EVERYTHING YOU'RE LIKELY TO NEED, SIR. RIGHT NOW!"

# What do you want, promises or peripherals?

As you may have already discovered, buying a computer is simple, but buying the peripherals for a computer, that can be a real headache.

They're always going to arrive at the shop next month, and next month never comes. Even worse, some computer companies don't even bother to produce a complete range of peripherals.

The good news is Commodore dealers have a complete range of peripherals available now.

The 1541 disk drive stores over 170,000 characters of data on each diskette giving you access to any part of the diskette in seconds. £229.00.

The 1530 cassette unit runs pre-recorded programs and stores data. £44.95.

**The 1701 colour monitor**  
 Its 14" screen gives far better resolution and picture quality than a TV. £230.00.

**Dot matrix printers.** The MPS801 printer prints alphabetic, numeric or graphic characters at 50 per second. £230.00. The 1526 prints at 60 characters per second, has friction feed and takes standard stationery. £345.00.

**The 1520 printer/plotter** draws in 4 colours, and prints characters and numbers. £169.99.

Each of these will help you get even more enjoyment out of your Commodore 64 or VIC 20.

And that's one promise we're more than happy to make.

**FREE SOFTWARE OFFER**

Buy the 1541 disk drive and you'll receive free Commodore 64 software worth over £100. Comprises Easyscript (word processing program) and a compilation of games including Stellar Wars, Sooper Froot, Labyrinth, Patience, Depth Charge and The Quest. (Offer applicable while stocks last.)



Please send me information on: 1541 disk drive  1530 cassette unit  1701 colour monitor  1520, printer, plotter  MPS801, 1526 printers  VIC 20  Commodore 64  (Please tick appropriate box.)

The Commodore Information Centre, 675 Ajax Avenue, Slough, Berkshire SL1 4BG. Tel: Slough (0753) 79292.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_



















Christie emerges from the shadows to make his mark in the New Year

Britain has 'world champion' living in the Kronk world

World titles at welterweight, light-middle and middle may be harder to come by now that Sugar Ray Leonard has thrown his hat in the ring...

Emanuel Steward, the director of Christie's other home, the Kronk, the fighting machine factory in Detroit...



Mean and magnificent: Christie pounds out a warning at the Becket Photograph: Chris Cole

There is no doubt that Christie, who holds a record 11 titles, is better than anybody in Britain in class and ability. There only remains the old question about his chin...

World Cup breakthrough for Julen after five second places

Les Diablers, Switzerland (Agencies) - Max Julen, of Switzerland, recorded his first ever World-Cup victory when he won the opening men's giant slalom of the Alpine season here today...

supremacy of the Swiss team in the giant slalom, Julen and Zurbriggen had both won giants in Bormio, Italy, which were not World Cup events...

Coach drinks to Ayr Bruins' success

Paul Bedford won four dozen cans of larger last week, the prize for being voted the coach of the month for November. His team, the Ayr Bruins, had led the league for one day on November 20 after winning only three games out of 25 last season...

All is not well at Speedwell

Capital City Spikers, with only one defeat this season, went to the top of the English men's first division by virtue of two victories at the weekend. Behind them are clustered four other teams with a chance of the title: Liverpool, Polonia, Spark and Speedwell Rucanor...

Becker responds to the Manchester challenge

Tom Becker, the American coach, was led Sunday to two National Championship triumphs before his departure for a greater challenge with lowly Manchester Giants does, at last, seem to be getting his latest act together...

Colombia to contend Milk Race

Colombia is likely to become the first South American team to take part in the Milk Race, it was announced yesterday by the National Dairy Council...

Flying Habibti to stay in training

Habibti, the champion sprinter, is to stay in training next season. The good news was announced by her trainer, John Dunlop, at the annual Derby awards luncheon given by the Horserace and Reporters Association in London yesterday...

Plumpton programme

- 12.30 CUCKERMERE CHASE (Novices: £1,250; 2m) (13 runners)
9 8402/0-0 ARMY SCOUT (M J Mould) B Stevens 6-11-4
6 0002/0-3 AUSTRIAN CORPORAL (A Waters) R Gow 5-11-4

John Henry's \$4m record

John Henry, an eight-year-old gelding, became the world's leading thoroughbred money-winner with a victory for the \$500,000 Hollywood Turf Cup in Los Angeles on Sunday...

Haydock Park in doubt

Tomorrow's Haydock Park meeting hinges on an inspection at 12.30 today. The clerk of the course, Major Phillip Arkwright, said "A lot of the ground is covered in snow and the ground underneath is frozen..."

Madden celebrates a change of fortune

While that most extrovert of Irish jump jockeys, John Madden, left Huntingdon yesterday a little more subdued than usual after a thoroughly frustrating and bruising day, his relatively reticent comrade Niall "Boots" Madden, had good reason to look forward to a traditional Irish "sober" on his 51st birthday after his victory on Barryville...

Huntington results

- 12.45 MONTAGU HURDLE (Conditional)
DOWN TO TOWN (M) by Buryby-Wheatley
Dove (Mrs K Smeaton) 9-10-11
Kestrel (D) 10-11-10
Dove (Mrs K Smeaton) 9-10-11

John Henry's \$4m record

John Henry, an eight-year-old gelding, became the world's leading thoroughbred money-winner with a victory for the \$500,000 Hollywood Turf Cup in Los Angeles on Sunday...

Haydock Park in doubt

Tomorrow's Haydock Park meeting hinges on an inspection at 12.30 today. The clerk of the course, Major Phillip Arkwright, said "A lot of the ground is covered in snow and the ground underneath is frozen..."

Advertisement for 'COMPUTERS FOR YOUR BUSINESS' with a large graphic of a computer monitor and keyboard.

Large vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, featuring the word 'COMPUTERS' and other text.



# Legal Appointments

## Corporate Lawyer

Schroder Assurance and Investment Holdings Limited is the holding company of a group engaged in Life Assurance, Pensions, Pension Trusteeship, Unit Trusts and Financial Planning. Due to the rapid expansion of the Group's activities we wish to appoint a Corporate Lawyer to join the Group Secretarial Division.

This newly created position involves responsibility for the provision of advice to management on legal matters affecting Group operations both in the UK and Channel Islands. In addition, the corporate lawyer will be required to participate in the full range of company secretarial duties by understudying the Group Secretary and acting on his behalf during his absence. The requirement is for a qualified solicitor who is able to communicate effectively with senior management and other specialists within the Group. Previous experience in a corporate legal function, preferably in the insurance/financial field would be an advantage but applications would be considered from newly qualified persons.

Based in our Head Office in Portsmouth this important position offers excellent career opportunities, an attractive salary, plus a wide range of benefits, which include: Mortgage Subsidy, Non-Contributory Pension Scheme, Luncheon Vouchers, Free Life Assurance, Comprehensive Relocation Package. For further details and application form, please telephone or write to: Mike Keeley, Schroder Assurance and Investment Holdings Limited, Enterprise House, Isambard Brunel Road, Portsmouth, PO1 2AW. Telephone: 0705-827733, Extension 265.



### Schroders

Schroder Assurance and Investment Holdings Limited

## BIRKBECK MONTAGU'S

wish to recruit

1. A newly admitted Assistant Solicitor for its Conveyancing Department wishing to Specialise in Commercial Conveyancing.
2. A newly admitted Assistant Solicitor for its Litigation Department with good experience in Commercial and General Litigation.
3. An Assistant Solicitor with one years experience in Commercial/Corporate work and Non-contentious Intellectual property work for the Commercial Department.
4. A newly admitted Solicitor for the Litigation Department with a bias towards Family Law.

Please apply in writing with Full Curriculum Vitae to Mrs B. Willoughby, Birkbeck Montagu's, 7 St Bride Street, London EC4A 4AT stating the position for which you are applying.

## TRAINEE COURT CLERK

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE/SOUTH TAMESIDE MAGISTRATES COURTS

The post is suitable to newly qualified Barristers or Solicitors or Graduates who have passed the Law Society Final Examinations.

Tel: 061 339 2662

**LOCUMS AT YOUR SERVICE!**  
We have locums available in all areas for the following:  
- Family Law  
- Criminal Law  
- Personal Injury  
- Commercial Law  
- Conveyancing  
- Probate  
- Real Estate  
- Employment Law  
- Insurance Law  
- Tax Law  
- Intellectual Property  
- Dispute Resolution  
- General Litigation  
- Public Law  
- Administrative Law  
- Environmental Law  
- Health Care Law  
- Education Law  
- Social Security Law  
- Banking and Finance Law  
- Company Law  
- Construction Law  
- Energy Law  
- International Law  
- Maritime Law  
- Media Law  
- Sports Law  
- Transport Law  
- Veterinary Law  
- Agricultural Law  
- Environmental Law  
- Planning Law  
- Housing Law  
- Immigration Law  
- Asylum Law  
- Human Rights Law  
- EU Law  
- Constitutional Law  
- Public Administration Law  
- Local Government Law  
- Environmental Law  
- Health Care Law  
- Education Law  
- Social Security Law  
- Banking and Finance Law  
- Company Law  
- Construction Law  
- Energy Law  
- International Law  
- Maritime Law  
- Media Law  
- Sports Law  
- Transport Law  
- Veterinary Law  
- Agricultural Law  
- Environmental Law  
- Planning Law  
- Housing Law  
- Immigration Law  
- Asylum Law  
- Human Rights Law  
- EU Law  
- Constitutional Law  
- Public Administration Law  
- Local Government Law

**CHAIR OF LAW**  
The University of Hong Kong has a vacancy for a Chair of Law. The holder of the Chair will be expected to lead the Law Faculty and to be responsible for the overall development of the Faculty. The holder will also be expected to represent the University in the legal community and to be involved in the promotion of the Faculty's interests. The holder will be expected to hold a high level of academic achievement and to have a wide range of legal experience. The holder will be expected to have a strong leadership ability and to be able to work with others. The holder will be expected to have a strong commitment to the University and to the legal profession. The holder will be expected to have a strong commitment to the development of the Faculty and to the promotion of the Faculty's interests. The holder will be expected to have a strong commitment to the University and to the legal profession. The holder will be expected to have a strong commitment to the development of the Faculty and to the promotion of the Faculty's interests.

**WEST END PRACTICE** requires Solicitors to deal with all aspects of conveyancing, probate and general litigation. Please send curriculum vitae to: Box 10088 The Times.

**NW LONDON FIRM** seeks industrial solicitor to run and develop litigation side of small business practice. Send CV to: Box 10088 The Times.

**SOLICITOR** required to deal mainly with matrimonial and common law. Please send curriculum vitae to: Box 10088 The Times.

**OXFORD & READING** recently admitted for litigation and non-contentious appointment. Contact: Victoria Consultants 0935 28183.

**LOCUMS/RETIRED** conveyancing and probate. Please send curriculum vitae to: Box 10088 The Times.

**WEST HENDRINGTON** solicitors require solicitor to deal with litigation and non-contentious work. Full CV to: Box 10088 The Times.

## LITIGATION SOLICITOR

Baker & McKenzie in London seek a solicitor with about two years' experience in the admission of commercial litigation and/or arbitration. Applicants with a working knowledge of and a willingness to specialise in disputes involving the carriage of goods by sea will be preferred. The position offers a competitive salary, opportunity for foreign travel and good prospects in a growing area in the firm's practice.

Please apply in writing with full C.V. to:  
Blair Wallace  
Partnership Secretary  
BAKER & MCKENZIE  
Aldwych House, Aldwych, London WC2B 4JP

## REAL PROPERTY CITY

Travers Smith, Bradshaw & Co, a medium-sized City Firm with a high quality practice of substantial PLC and other clients, are looking for a bright, personable Solicitor with a sound academic record and experience to work with one of their Property Partners. Applications are sought from those over nine months enrolled but ideally with about two years post admission experience who wish to be awarded not only a City Solicitor's qualification but also with a variety of substantial residential and agricultural transactions. Competitive salary within the City.  
To apply for this post, write or telephone to: Reuter Simkin Ltd, 26-28 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4HE. Tel: 01-405 6852, quoting Ref: C.87.

Reuter Simkin

## Commercial Litigation

### Bristows, Cooke & Carmael

Require two solicitors, preferably less than 2 years qualified, to join their expanding Intellectual Property Department. This large Department undertakes complex High Court Litigation for major international and domestic clients.

The ability to accept a high level of responsibility is required as is willingness to travel. A technical background would be an advantage. Excellent salary and conditions.

Reply with full C.V. to: Ref: G. Bristows, Cooke & Carmael, 10 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3BP.

## BARLOW LYDE & GILBERT LITIGATION

We are recruiting able and energetic Solicitors to fill new or existing posts in the fields of professional indemnity and/or industrial injury work for Defendants.

Successful candidates will have had 2-4 years litigation experience.

Applications with curriculum vitae should be sent to:  
Mr E. J. Skellett  
Barlow Lyde & Gilbert  
3/5 Dowgate Hill  
London EC4R 2SJ

## CORNWALL MAGISTRATES' COURTS COMMITTEE COURT CLERK/ ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Grade CC/PAD - Points 5, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8, 5.9, 6.0, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, 6.9, 7.0, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.8, 7.9, 8.0, 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6, 8.7, 8.8, 8.9, 9.0, 9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4, 9.5, 9.6, 9.7, 9.8, 9.9, 10.0, 10.1, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 10.5, 10.6, 10.7, 10.8, 10.9, 11.0, 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.4, 11.5, 11.6, 11.7, 11.8, 11.9, 12.0, 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4, 12.5, 12.6, 12.7, 12.8, 12.9, 13.0, 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 13.4, 13.5, 13.6, 13.7, 13.8, 13.9, 14.0, 14.1, 14.2, 14.3, 14.4, 14.5, 14.6, 14.7, 14.8, 14.9, 15.0, 15.1, 15.2, 15.3, 15.4, 15.5, 15.6, 15.7, 15.8, 15.9, 16.0, 16.1, 16.2, 16.3, 16.4, 16.5, 16.6, 16.7, 16.8, 16.9, 17.0, 17.1, 17.2, 17.3, 17.4, 17.5, 17.6, 17.7, 17.8, 17.9, 18.0, 18.1, 18.2, 18.3, 18.4, 18.5, 18.6, 18.7, 18.8, 18.9, 19.0, 19.1, 19.2, 19.3, 19.4, 19.5, 19.6, 19.7, 19.8, 19.9, 20.0, 20.1, 20.2, 20.3, 20.4, 20.5, 20.6, 20.7, 20.8, 20.9, 21.0, 21.1, 21.2, 21.3, 21.4, 21.5, 21.6, 21.7, 21.8, 21.9, 22.0, 22.1, 22.2, 22.3, 22.4, 22.5, 22.6, 22.7, 22.8, 22.9, 23.0, 23.1, 23.2, 23.3, 23.4, 23.5, 23.6, 23.7, 23.8, 23.9, 24.0, 24.1, 24.2, 24.3, 24.4, 24.5, 24.6, 24.7, 24.8, 24.9, 25.0, 25.1, 25.2, 25.3, 25.4, 25.5, 25.6, 25.7, 25.8, 25.9, 26.0, 26.1, 26.2, 26.3, 26.4, 26.5, 26.6, 26.7, 26.8, 26.9, 27.0, 27.1, 27.2, 27.3, 27.4, 27.5, 27.6, 27.7, 27.8, 27.9, 28.0, 28.1, 28.2, 28.3, 28.4, 28.5, 28.6, 28.7, 28.8, 28.9, 29.0, 29.1, 29.2, 29.3, 29.4, 29.5, 29.6, 29.7, 29.8, 29.9, 30.0, 30.1, 30.2, 30.3, 30.4, 30.5, 30.6, 30.7, 30.8, 30.9, 31.0, 31.1, 31.2, 31.3, 31.4, 31.5, 31.6, 31.7, 31.8, 31.9, 32.0, 32.1, 32.2, 32.3, 32.4, 32.5, 32.6, 32.7, 32.8, 32.9, 33.0, 33.1, 33.2, 33.3, 33.4, 33.5, 33.6, 33.7, 33.8, 33.9, 34.0, 34.1, 34.2, 34.3, 34.4, 34.5, 34.6, 34.7, 34.8, 34.9, 35.0, 35.1, 35.2, 35.3, 35.4, 35.5, 35.6, 35.7, 35.8, 35.9, 36.0, 36.1, 36.2, 36.3, 36.4, 36.5, 36.6, 36.7, 36.8, 36.9, 37.0, 37.1, 37.2, 37.3, 37.4, 37.5, 37.6, 37.7, 37.8, 37.9, 38.0, 38.1, 38.2, 38.3, 38.4, 38.5, 38.6, 38.7, 38.8, 38.9, 39.0, 39.1, 39.2, 39.3, 39.4, 39.5, 39.6, 39.7, 39.8, 39.9, 40.0, 40.1, 40.2, 40.3, 40.4, 40.5, 40.6, 40.7, 40.8, 40.9, 41.0, 41.1, 41.2, 41.3, 41.4, 41.5, 41.6, 41.7, 41.8, 41.9, 42.0, 42.1, 42.2, 42.3, 42.4, 42.5, 42.6, 42.7, 42.8, 42.9, 43.0, 43.1, 43.2, 43.3, 43.4, 43.5, 43.6, 43.7, 43.8, 43.9, 44.0, 44.1, 44.2, 44.3, 44.4, 44.5, 44.6, 44.7, 44.8, 44.9, 45.0, 45.1, 45.2, 45.3, 45.4, 45.5, 45.6, 45.7, 45.8, 45.9, 46.0, 46.1, 46.2, 46.3, 46.4, 46.5, 46.6, 46.7, 46.8, 46.9, 47.0, 47.1, 47.2, 47.3, 47.4, 47.5, 47.6, 47.7, 47.8, 47.9, 48.0, 48.1, 48.2, 48.3, 48.4, 48.5, 48.6, 48.7, 48.8, 48.9, 49.0, 49.1, 49.2, 49.3, 49.4, 49.5, 49.6, 49.7, 49.8, 49.9, 50.0, 50.1, 50.2, 50.3, 50.4, 50.5, 50.6, 50.7, 50.8, 50.9, 51.0, 51.1, 51.2, 51.3, 51.4, 51.5, 51.6, 51.7, 51.8, 51.9, 52.0, 52.1, 52.2, 52.3, 52.4, 52.5, 52.6, 52.7, 52.8, 52.9, 53.0, 53.1, 53.2, 53.3, 53.4, 53.5, 53.6, 53.7, 53.8, 53.9, 54.0, 54.1, 54.2, 54.3, 54.4, 54.5, 54.6, 54.7, 54.8, 54.9, 55.0, 55.1, 55.2, 55.3, 55.4, 55.5, 55.6, 55.7, 55.8, 55.9, 56.0, 56.1, 56.2, 56.3, 56.4, 56.5, 56.6, 56.7, 56.8, 56.9, 57.0, 57.1, 57.2, 57.3, 57.4, 57.5, 57.6, 57.7, 57.8, 57.9, 58.0, 58.1, 58.2, 58.3, 58.4, 58.5, 58.6, 58.7, 58.8, 58.9, 59.0, 59.1, 59.2, 59.3, 59.4, 59.5, 59.6, 59.7, 59.8, 59.9, 60.0, 60.1, 60.2, 60.3, 60.4, 60.5, 60.6, 60.7, 60.8, 60.9, 61.0, 61.1, 61.2, 61.3, 61.4, 61.5, 61.6, 61.7, 61.8, 61.9, 62.0, 62.1, 62.2, 62.3, 62.4, 62.5, 62.6, 62.7, 62.8, 62.9, 63.0, 63.1, 63.2, 63.3, 63.4, 63.5, 63.6, 63.7, 63.8, 63.9, 64.0, 64.1, 64.2, 64.3, 64.4, 64.5, 64.6, 64.7, 64.8, 64.9, 65.0, 65.1, 65.2, 65.3, 65.4, 65.5, 65.6, 65.7, 65.8, 65.9, 66.0, 66.1, 66.2, 66.3, 66.4, 66.5, 66.6, 66.7, 66.8, 66.9, 67.0, 67.1, 67.2, 67.3, 67.4, 67.5, 67.6, 67.7, 67.8, 67.9, 68.0, 68.1, 68.2, 68.3, 68.4, 68.5, 68.6, 68.7, 68.8, 68.9, 69.0, 69.1, 69.2, 69.3, 69.4, 69.5, 69.6, 69.7, 69.8, 69.9, 70.0, 70.1, 70.2, 70.3, 70.4, 70.5, 70.6, 70.7, 70.8, 70.9, 71.0, 71.1, 71.2, 71.3, 71.4, 71.5, 71.6, 71.7, 71.8, 71.9, 72.0, 72.1, 72.2, 72.3, 72.4, 72.5, 72.6, 72.7, 72.8, 72.9, 73.0, 73.1, 73.2, 73.3, 73.4, 73.5, 73.6, 73.7, 73.8, 73.9, 74.0, 74.1, 74.2, 74.3, 74.4, 74.5, 74.6, 74.7, 74.8, 74.9, 75.0, 75.1, 75.2, 75.3, 75.4, 75.5, 75.6, 75.7, 75.8, 75.9, 76.0, 76.1, 76.2, 76.3, 76.4, 76.5, 76.6, 76.7, 76.8, 76.9, 77.0, 77.1, 77.2, 77.3, 77.4, 77.5, 77.6, 77.7, 77.8, 77.9, 78.0, 78.1, 78.2, 78.3, 78.4, 78.5, 78.6, 78.7, 78.8, 78.9, 79.0, 79.1, 79.2, 79.3, 79.4, 79.5, 79.6, 79.7, 79.8, 79.9, 80.0, 80.1, 80.2, 80.3, 80.4, 80.5, 80.6, 80.7, 80.8, 80.9, 81.0, 81.1, 81.2, 81.3, 81.4, 81.5, 81.6, 81.7, 81.8, 81.9, 82.0, 82.1, 82.2, 82.3, 82.4, 82.5, 82.6, 82.7, 82.8, 82.9, 83.0, 83.1, 83.2, 83.3, 83.4, 83.5, 83.6, 83.7, 83.8, 83.9, 84.0, 84.1, 84.2, 84.3, 84.4, 84.5, 84.6, 84.7, 84.8, 84.9, 85.0, 85.1, 85.2, 85.3, 85.4, 85.5, 85.6, 85.7, 85.8, 85.9, 86.0, 86.1, 86.2, 86.3, 86.4, 86.5, 86.6, 86.7, 86.8, 86.9, 87.0, 87.1, 87.2, 87.3, 87.4, 87.5, 87.6, 87.7, 87.8, 87.9, 88.0, 88.1, 88.2, 88.3, 88.4, 88.5, 88.6, 88.7, 88.8, 88.9, 89.0, 89.1, 89.2, 89.3, 89.4, 89.5, 89.6, 89.7, 89.8, 89.9, 90.0, 90.1, 90.2, 90.3, 90.4, 90.5, 90.6, 90.7, 90.8, 90.9, 91.0, 91.1, 91.2, 91.3, 91.4, 91.5, 91.6, 91.7, 91.8, 91.9, 92.0, 92.1, 92.2, 92.3, 92.4, 92.5, 92.6, 92.7, 92.8, 92.9, 93.0, 93.1, 93.2, 93.3, 93.4, 93.5, 93.6, 93.7, 93.8, 93.9, 94.0, 94.1, 94.2, 94.3, 94.4, 94.5, 94.6, 94.7, 94.8, 94.9, 95.0, 95.1, 95.2, 95.3, 95.4, 95.5, 95.6, 95.7, 95.8, 95.9, 96.0, 96.1, 96.2, 96.3, 96.4, 96.5, 96.6, 96.7, 96.8, 96.9, 97.0, 97.1, 97.2, 97.3, 97.4, 97.5, 97.6, 97.7, 97.8, 97.9, 98.0, 98.1, 98.2, 98.3, 98.4, 98.5, 98.6, 98.7, 98.8, 98.9, 99.0, 99.1, 99.2, 99.3, 99.4, 99.5, 99.6, 99.7, 99.8, 99.9, 100.0, 100.1, 100.2, 100.3, 100.4, 100.5, 100.6, 100.7, 100.8, 100.9, 101.0, 101.1, 101.2, 101.3, 101.4, 101.5, 101.6, 101.7, 101.8, 101.9, 102.0, 102.1, 102.2, 102.3, 102.4, 102.5, 102.6, 102.7, 102.8, 102.9, 103.0, 103.1, 103.2, 103.3, 103.4, 103.5, 103.6, 103.7, 103.8, 103.9, 104.0, 104.1, 104.2, 104.3, 104.4, 104.5, 104.6, 104.7, 104.8, 104.9, 105.0, 105.1, 105.2, 105.3, 105.4, 105.5, 105.6, 105.7, 105.8, 105.9, 106.0, 106.1, 106.2, 106.3, 106.4, 106.5, 106.6, 106.7, 106.8, 106.9, 107.0, 107.1, 107.2, 107.3, 107.4, 107.5, 107.6, 107.7, 107.8, 107.9, 108.0, 108.1, 108.2, 108.3, 108.4, 108.5, 108.6, 108.7, 108.8, 108.9, 109.0, 109.1, 109.2, 109.3, 109.4, 109.5, 109.6, 109.7, 109.8, 109.9, 110.0, 110.1, 110.2, 110.3, 110.4, 110.5, 110.6, 110.7, 110.8, 110.9, 111.0, 111.1, 111.2, 111.3, 111.4, 111.5, 111.6, 111.7, 111.8, 111.9, 112.0, 112.1, 112.2, 112.3, 112.4, 112.5, 112.6, 112.7, 112.8, 112.9, 113.0, 113.1, 113.2, 113.3, 113.4, 113.5, 113.6, 113.7, 113.8, 113.9, 114.0, 114.1, 114.2, 114.3, 114.4, 114.5, 114.6, 114.7, 114.8, 114.9, 115.0, 115.1, 115.2, 115.3, 115.4, 115.5, 115.6, 115.7, 115.8, 115.9, 116.0, 116.1, 116.2, 116.3, 116.4, 116.5, 116.6, 116.7, 116.8, 116.9, 117.0, 117.1, 117.2, 117.3, 117.4, 117.5, 117.6, 117.7, 117.8, 117.9, 118.0, 118.1, 118.2, 118.3, 118.4, 118.5, 118.6, 118.7, 118.8, 118.9, 119.0, 119.1, 119.2, 119.3, 119.4, 119.5, 119.6, 119.7, 119.8, 119.9, 120.0, 120.1, 120.2, 120.3, 120.4, 120.5, 120.6, 120.7, 120.8, 120.9, 121.0, 121.1, 121.2, 121.3, 121.4, 121.5, 121.6, 121.7, 121.8, 121.9, 122.0, 122.1, 122.2, 122.3, 122.4, 122.5, 122.6, 122.7, 122.8, 122.9, 123.0, 123.1, 123.2, 123.3, 123.4, 123.5, 123.6, 123.7, 123.8, 123.9, 124.0, 124.1, 124.2, 124.3, 124.4, 124.5, 124.6, 124.7, 124.8, 124.9, 125.0, 125.1, 125.2, 125.3, 125.4, 125.5, 125.6, 125.7, 125.8, 125.9, 126.0, 126.1, 126.2, 126.3, 126.4, 126.5, 126.6, 126.7, 126.8, 126.9, 127.0, 127.1, 127.2, 127.3, 127.4, 127.5, 127.6, 127.7, 127.8, 127.9, 128.0, 128.1, 128.2, 128.3, 128.4, 128.5, 128.6, 128.7, 128.8, 128.9, 129.0, 129.1, 129.2, 129.3, 129.4, 129.5, 129.6, 129.7, 129.8, 129.9, 130.0, 130.1, 130.2, 130.3, 130.4, 130.5, 130.6, 130.7, 130.8, 130.9, 131.0, 131.1, 131.2, 131.3, 131.4, 131.5, 131.6, 131.7, 131.8, 131.9, 132.0, 132.1, 132.2, 132.3, 132.4, 132.5, 132.6, 132.7, 132.8, 132.9, 133.0, 133.1, 133.2, 133.3, 133.4, 133.5, 133.6, 133.7, 133.8, 133.9, 134.0, 134.1, 134.2, 134.3, 134.4, 134.5, 134.6, 134.7, 134.8, 134.9, 135.0, 135.1, 135.2, 135.3, 135.4, 135.5, 135.6, 135.7, 135.8, 135.9, 136.0, 136.1, 136.2, 136.3, 136.4, 136.5, 136.6, 136.7, 136.8, 136.9, 137.0, 137.1, 137.2, 137.3, 137.4, 137.5, 137.6, 137.7, 137.8, 137.9, 138.0, 138.1, 138.2, 138.3, 138.4, 138.5, 138.6, 138.7, 138.8, 138.9, 139.0, 139.1, 139.2, 139.3, 139.4, 139.5, 139.6, 139.7, 139.8, 139.9, 140.0, 140.1, 140.2, 140.3, 140.4, 140.5, 140.6, 140.7, 140.8, 140.9, 141.0, 141.1, 141.2, 141.3, 141.4, 141.5, 141.6, 141.7, 141.8, 141.9, 142.0, 142.1, 142.2, 142.3, 142.4, 142.5, 142.6, 142.7, 142.8, 142.9, 143.0, 143.1, 143.2, 143.3, 143.4, 143.5, 143.6, 143.7, 143.8, 143.9, 144.0, 144.1, 144.2, 144.3, 144.4, 144.5, 144.6, 144.7, 144.8, 144.9, 145.0, 145.1, 145.2, 145.3, 145.4, 145.5, 145.6, 145.7, 145.8, 145.9, 146.0, 146.1, 146.2, 146.3, 146.4, 146.5, 146.6, 146.7, 146.8, 146.9, 147.0, 147.1, 147.2, 147.3, 147.4, 147.5, 147.6, 147.7,







Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC1
6.00 Ceefax AM.
6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank...

TV-am
6.25 Good Morning Britain
presented by Anne Diamond...



Richard Johnson as the Air Vice-Marshal in 'The Ardrome'.

CHOICE
Lord Rothschild, to describe the way the Tank worked, covers the conception, birth, life and death of the body during its 12-year span...

CHANNEL 4
4.45 Countdown. The first semi-final of the anagrams and mental arithmetic competition.

Radio 4
6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Shipping Today.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary...

Radio 2
News on the hour, except 8.00pm and 8.00pm (M/W). Major bulletins 7.00am, 8.00am, 1.00pm and 2.30pm.

Radio 1
News on the hour, except 8.00pm-8.50pm then at 10.00 and 12.00 midnight (M/W).

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Shipping Today.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary...

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Shipping Today.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary...

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Shipping Today.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary...

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Shipping Today.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary...

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Shipping Today.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary...

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Shipping Today.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary...

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Shipping Today.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary...

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Shipping Today.
6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News Summary...

Entertainments

Grid of entertainment listings including DRURY LANE, GREENWICH THEATRE, LYRIC HAMBURGNETHS, and various other venues and shows.



Brothers jailed for selling glue-sniff kits

Two brothers who sold glue-sniffing kits to children were each jailed for three years yesterday in a case that made Scottish legal history.

Ridley calls for review before BA goes private

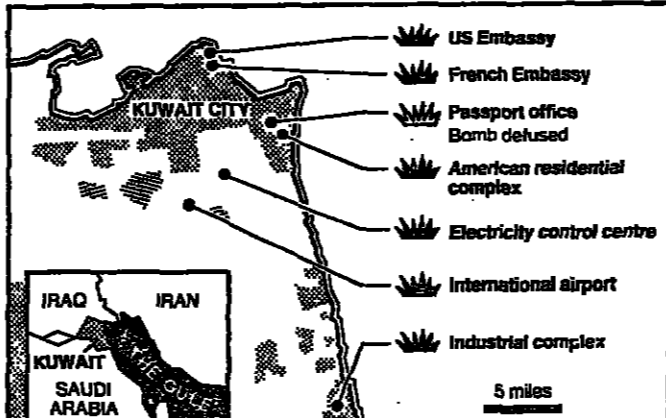
An urgent review of civil aviation policy has been ordered by Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, before the privatization of British Airways in about a year.



Bombing aftermath: A vehicle lies destroyed in Kuwait's Salwi district after yesterday's bombings.

Bombings in Kuwait blamed on Iran

Continued from page 1 Muslim monarchies and their oil wealth.



provided the excuse for the bomb at the French Embassy in Kuwait.

tionist at the embassy described how the ceiling crashed down on the heads of people on the ground floor.

Civilization versus the Dark suburbs

Mr William Waldegrave, the under secretary at the Department of the Environment, arrived yesterday, as is his tendency every few weeks, to answer questions as the Minister in the Commons responsible for the arts.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events Royal engagements The Duke of Edinburgh, Senior Fellow of the Fellowship of Engineering, will present the MacRobert Award at Buckingham Palace, Aprn, and as President of the Royal Society of Arts presents the Presidential Awards for Design Management at the Design Management Symposium 6pm and subsequently presents the Albert Medal at a dinner at the Royal Society of Arts, John Adam Street, WC2.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,308. A crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.

Music Lindisfarne Christmas Show. City Hall, Sheffield, 8.15. Chamber Concert, Pump Room, Bath, 7.30.

Exhibitions in progress Cranbrook's British seaside out of season by Clive Frost and John Sims; Impressions Gallery of Photography, 17 Colliery, York, Tues to Sat 10 to 6, closed Sun and Mon (ends Dec 24).

TV top ten National top ten television programmes in the week ending December 4.

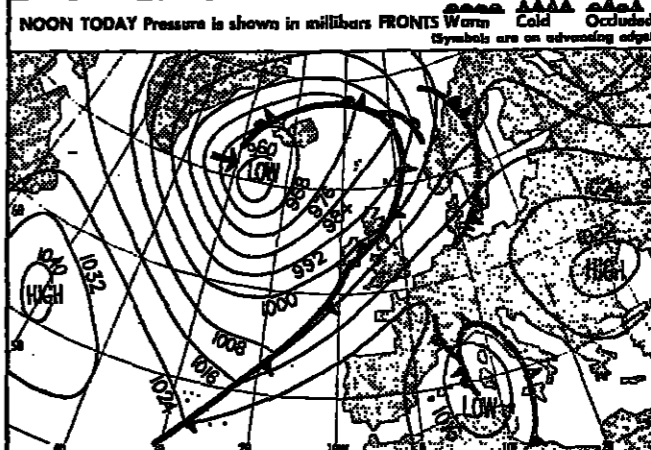
General Christmas Pageant: The History of Christmas in words and music, Hemsworth Library, Blackstock Road, Sheffield, 8.15.

Roads London and South-east: M20: Contrail on both carriageways from A20 (junction 5/Maidstone West) to 1/2 mile east of A249 (junction 7) Sheerness/Sittingbourne; avoid if possible A41.

The papers The Washington Post admits that it was caught by surprise by the lack of sophistication shown by the European leaders in Athens.

Weather A trough of low pressure will cross north-western areas during the day with a south-westerly airstream over all areas.

Lighting-up time London 4.22 pm to 7.28 am. Bristol 4.31 pm to 7.28 am. Liverpool 4.31 pm to 7.28 am. Manchester 4.18 pm to 7.47 am. Newcastle 4.50 pm to 7.43 am.



High tides and Around Britain tables. High tides: London Bridge 7.09, 7.57, 8.08, 8.74. Around Britain: Sun Rise, Moon Rise, etc.

S. Atlantic calls British servicemen in the Falklands will be able to call their families direct this Christmas at a special rate of 75 pence a minute.

The pound table showing exchange rates for various countries like Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, USA, Yugoslavia.

Anniversaries Heinrich Heine, poet, was born at Düsseldorf, 1797. Deaths: Moses Maimonides, philosopher and physician, Egypt, 1204. Donatello, sculptor, Florence, 1466. Samuel Johnson, London, 1784. Abel Tasman discovered New Zealand, 1642.

London Yesterday: Temperature: 11.0°C (52°F). Wind: S.W. 10-15 mph. Rain: 1.0mm.

Abroad table showing weather forecasts for various cities like Moscow, Paris, Rome, etc.

Parliament today Commons (2.30): London Regional Transport, second reading. Lords (2.30): Agricultural Holdings Bill, committee, third day.

Concise Crossword Page 10. A smaller crossword puzzle grid.

Highest and lowest London Yesterday: Highest: 11.0°C (52°F). Lowest: 4.1°C (39°F). Wind: S.W. 10-15 mph. Rain: 1.0mm.

Abroad Yesterday: Moscow: 11.0°C (52°F). Paris: 11.0°C (52°F). Rome: 11.0°C (52°F).

Abroad Today: Moscow: 11.0°C (52°F). Paris: 11.0°C (52°F). Rome: 11.0°C (52°F).

كندا من الأصل